



ADAS ISRAEL CONGREGATION

Chronicle

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L'shana Tova

2014 HIGH HOLY DAYS EDITION

דובר אמת
Dover Emet
Speaking the Truth

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

L'SHANA TOVA TIKATEVU

As the Jewish people, we enter this new year after a very painful and trying summer. The kidnapping and murder of the three boys. The missiles from Gaza. The ground invasion. Hamas putting us in a position to bring harm upon innocents. The war of words—and sometimes outright violence—against the Jewish people around the world. As we approach the New Year, we are in the Hebrew month of *Elul*—traditionally a time of taking stock of our lives, of making *t'shuvah*, of returning to our best selves in preparation for being inscribed in the Book of Life for another year. This year, we scarcely need the reminder of the High Holy Days of life's preciousness and insecurity.

What we need this year is not reminders to be afraid or penitent. What we need is hope.

We need reassurance. We

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L'Shana Tova From Your Adas Israel Family! **Adas Israel High Holy Days 2014/5775**

With warmth, sincerity, gratitude, and faith, we invite you to share the holiday season with the entire Adas Israel family. May you be inscribed in the book of life for another wonderful year. And may you find much meaning, warmth, and personal renewal throughout this year's High Holy Day services at Adas Israel. Please turn to page 6 for a complete High Holy Day Schedule and Guide. Packets of High Holy Day information have also arrived at your homes. Feel free to contact the synagogue office for any ticket and service needs.



Simchat Torah Honorees, 2014/5775

Simchat Torah is one of the most joyous days of the Hebrew calendar. On this day, the annual cycle of the reading of the Torah is begun again. Each year, several congregants who have served with unusual dedication are selected to receive special honors on *Simchat Torah*. For each of them, Adas Israel is deeply entwined with their lives and that of their families. Please join us when we honor this year's worthy honorees:

Julia Gordon **Jennie Litvack** **Rae Grad**

Please join us on *Simchat Torah* morning, Friday, October 17, at 9:15 am when we will welcome these outstanding individuals to the Torah and thank them for their service to our congregation and our community. Photos and bios of the honorees will be published in the October *Chronicle*. ○

CELEBRATING OUR 144TH YEAR
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Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

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need faith that what we live for and stand for in this world is good

and true and sacred, that our people can live together in peace with our neighbors. And yet, our holidays and liturgy remain as they are, as they have been for centuries: a constant reminder that we are not as in control of our lives as we would like to think.

Obviously, our people are no strangers to dark and painful times. And in those times, as well, our ancestors came to *shul* and prayed to God to preserve us, despite our sins, despite our unworthiness and shortcomings. In this consistency of our tradition, of our refrains of penitence and dependence on God, there is great wisdom. And, paradoxically, there is hope—the only real hope that ever exists in this life.

There is, first, the hope literally expressed in the ancient Hebrew prayers—that God doesn't want us to perish; that God doesn't want war, strife, suffering. Rather, God wants us to live, to be blessed in a world of peace, caring, and kindness.

There is, second, the hope that comes from taking the long view of our lives and of our people: we are the ultimate survivors of all the hatreds and bloodshed that have been brought upon us for so many centuries. Our prayerful expressions of God wanting us to live have borne out in truth. Those who seek our destruction in every generation—they themselves are the ones whose days are numbered. We carry on always, despite the odds. The High Holy Days remind us that our destiny is survival; our destiny is life.

The third and most important element of hope arises not from words or prayers, or from collective memory of survival. On the High Holy Days, we stand together as one! All generations, all political persuasions, all narratives: we are just Jews sharing the same heritage, path, and destiny. By standing together on these sacred days, we literally can look around and see that there is something beyond all our differences that unites us: *our very humanity itself*. We may have our own ideas about what Judaism means. We may have our various opinions about Israel and the Jewish people and our relationship to the world. But the High Holy Days are not about any of those things. They are a reminder, simply, that we are human, that we are creatures who are no more than dust and ashes. In this way, we stand together before God not even just as Jews. We remember that we are made of the same stuff as every human being, including our enemies. *Rosh Hashanah* commemorates not a Jewish historical event, but the creation of the entire world—a world that includes “us” and “them.” It's a world of human beings, creatures who are dependent on each other to survive and to thrive. On the High Holy Days, all of our pretenses of difference drop away. We are humble and spiritually naked.

How is this hopeful? The essence of *t'shuvah* is this very returning to our raw essence.

Rosh Hashanah is called *Yom HaZikaron* (The Day of Remembering) for this reason: in the raw blast of the *shofar*, we remember that we are not alone in feeling afraid, in yearning for safety and protection, in wishing for happiness and peace. We share our essential “creatureliness” with all life on this earth. This realization, this *t'shuvah*, leads us to *t'filah*: *T'filah* is more than just “prayer.” It's the realization that we share with all life not just fear and insecurity, but the capacity to wonder at life's miraculousness. We can find strength in being together and feeling grateful for having the life and skills and potential to respond to the blessing of being alive, despite our limitations.

Once we know that we are together in *t'filah*—in wonder and gratitude—then we are ready for *tzedakah*. Again, *tzedakah* means so much more than just charity. *Tzedakah* is what happens when our humility, wonder, and gratitude translate into action. We fully actualize *tzedakah* when we know that our very embodied and transient lives are nevertheless instruments of transformation. *Tzedakah* isn't just about Jews giving to Jewish causes. *Tzedakah* is acting for justice and for peace motivated by the wonder of our very humanity, of our creaturely potential to build a better world. To put it another way, the hopeful endgame of the High Holy Days is that our purpose in this life is *tzedeck* itself. It's embodied wisdom-in-action: it's pursuing justice for all oppressed, Jews and non-Jews. It's about not giving into despair in the face of hatreds. It's about making compromises for the sake of peace. It's about feeding the hungry. It's about doing *mitzvot* that ennoble our lives and remind us of our human sacred dignity and potential. It's about the little acts of lovingkindness that can punctuate our day.

These things—*t'shuvah*, *t'filah*, *tzedakah*—*Ma'avirin et Ro'a Hag'zerah*, they “Remove the evil of The Decree.” The decree is the reality of life: our world contains Hamas, anti-Semites, missiles, and terrorists. That is not going to change anytime soon. And this summer, we came to know first-hand the evil of this decree. But in acknowledging what we are powerless over, we can then finally come into a deep knowledge of what we *do* have the power to do: we have the power to transcend our differences. We have the power to see past our own fears and hatreds into the shared humanity of the other, even those whose narratives contradict our own narratives. We have the power of gratitude for the precious miracle that is our life, our being together, our capacity to love. Finally, we have the power to turn our shared yearnings into action. We can strive for peace and justice, even if some of us may not live another year to see that peace and justice fully realized.

These High Holy Days, let us remember that the essence of our Jewish identity is, and has always been, *Hatikvah*, hope itself. Thanks to our sacred heritage, we are a people who always remembers that there is something we can do, that there is nothing ultimately to despair of in this life. Peace and security can come when we remember that we are one people, one humanity, endowed always with the capacity to act.]

L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu: May we all be inscribed in the Book of Life, and may we all see peace and security reign in this coming year! ○

From the President



Arnie Podgorsky

Study Is Our Iron Dome

It is the month of *Elul. Shana Tovah!* If I offended you this past year, I apologize, and ask that you pardon and forgive me.

This *Rosh Hashanah* comes during times bright and dark. Our freedoms and opportunities in this age—in this nation—are unprecedented in the Diaspora. As American society increasingly finds all discrimination

against classes of peoples repulsive, Jews are free to live and observe openly, without economic or social reprisal. Perhaps never before have we had such cause to recite the prayer for our country with passion, intent, and gratitude. In the United States, and political gridlock notwithstanding, these are good times. Judaism can flourish here.

But these are dark times, too. As I write at the end of July, yet another tragic war rages between Israel and Hamas. Terms for any durable peace remain elusive if not merely aspirational.

There is such darkness in our history. This past July my wife Christy and I visited the historic Jewish quarters of Prague, Vienna, and Budapest. We saw strong reminders of wonderful historic communities. Prague's Old New Synagogue dates back to 1270. Vienna's Stadttempel (City Temple) and Budapest's Dohány Street Synagogue, both built in the 1800s, are stately and beautiful. Budapest's Rumbach Synagogue has not been rebuilt since the war, but examples of its intricate beauty are lovingly displayed. Today there are growing new Jewish communities in

several cities including Vienna, with its salons for discussions to bring deeper understanding of Judaism even to non-Jews.

But there is no happy veneer for the European experience. Centuries of cyclical death and destruction established mind-sets and precedents that set the stage for the Holocaust. Touring these cities and their extraordinary museums, we faced the contradiction between this darkness and the beauty of European music, literature, and art. Our enhanced comprehension of the Church's triumphalism and economics of seizing Jewish-owned property gave us neither comfort nor insight into how the future could be different, safer. Even with contemporary glimmers of light in some communities, Europe is a practiced, recidivistic, violently anti-Semitic.

What, you may wonder, does this have to do with *Rosh Hashanah*? The Tanya (*Likkutei Amarim*) teaches that on each *Rosh Hashanah* a new light shines from a higher spiritual level, bestowing a more elevated and divinely infused creation. This contemplation is easier to grasp if we consider creation ongoing, not a single, week-long event that was followed by perpetual divine inaction.

But how do we reconcile this ever-brightening light of creation with the darkness of war? In the face of history, tragedy, and threat, where do we find optimism and renewal for a New Year?

I believe the answer is revealed through Jewish learning. Joy, light and love, the Oneness of our connections with God and each other—*echod*—are at Judaism's core. As just a little light,

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A Good Word About Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt

by Rabbi Gil Steinlauf



Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt

It gives me great pleasure to write this piece about one of Adas Israel's greatest treasures: Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt. Three years ago, we were looking to fill a part-time position, the director of lifelong learning. I remember we were concerned about how to fill the position. We needed someone with considerable Judaic knowledge and skill to plan, coordinate, and implement our prodigious adult learning offerings. But it wasn't a full-time

position. I remember very well my first meeting with Rabbi Holtzblatt. It was a lunch meeting. In walks not one person, but two: Rabbi Holtzblatt and a little guy named Elijah—her newborn son—in a sling. It was clear right away that this wasn't going to be a formal, business-like meeting. In her charming, dazzling, earthy, nurturing, and spiritual way, we instantly hit it off. Instead of job descriptions and CVs, our conversation somehow became about our children, how we met our spouses, our stories, our hopes and dreams. After an hour of wonderful conversation and connection, somehow all her skills and background and qualifications for the job were covered—and there was no need for any formal barrage of interview questions. It was clear why she was interested in a part-time position as a mother of two young children who also had a passion for being

a rabbi, a teacher, a visionary. Most significant, I hadn't just met an interviewee. I had made a friend.

That initial meeting captures the essence of the extraordinary contribution Rabbi Holtzblatt has made in her few short years here. Yes, on paper she has been our part-time employee, our director of lifelong learning. In reality, her contribution has been a tour de force in our congregation. Her successes scarcely need enumeration here: her Return Again *Kol Nidre* service on the front patio that attracts thousands every year; her monthly Return Again *Shabbat* services; her visionary leadership of the *MakomDC* adult learning program in the Biran *Beit Midrash*; her loving and masterful direction of the Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington—these are just the most visible accomplishments of many. These accomplishments are impressive enough on paper. But the magic happens—as anyone who knows her can tell you—in the quality of presence she brings to anything and everything she does. Just like at my initial meeting with her, she brings a quality of being so genuine and natural that it doesn't matter if you are one-on-one or in a group of a thousand—she creates a personal connection with her, and with the sacred.

Is it any wonder, then, that our Board of Directors decided to recognize the treasure we have in Rabbi Holtzblatt? As we begin our new year here at Adas, we will no longer refer to this remark-

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MUSICAL MOMENTS @ ADAS ISRAEL

Brought to you by Cantor Arianne Brown and the Musical Moments Committee

We are thrilled to announce the next season of musical moments at Adas Israel! Whether singing our hearts out together in song and prayer, moving and grooving with our tots, or experiencing the joy of dazzling concert music—there's something for everyone. Come join us for a musical renaissance.



MUSICAL MOMENTS HIGHLIGHTS @ ADAS ISRAEL 2014–15

Simchat Torah

Thursday, Oct. 16, 6:30 pm

Featuring Sruli and Lisa leading us in festive song and dance! Multi-instrumentalists and vocalists Sruli and Lisa play the clarinet, violin, accordion, bass recorder, cello, and drum, and perform and teach Klezmer and Hasidic music and dance all over the country.

Move & Groove, Sundays, Jan. 11 & Feb. 9, 10:00 am

An exciting concert for families with young children! Come move and groove with a fantastic children's entertainer. Families with children ages 0–5 are especially encouraged to join us for this wonderful musical celebration. Music, dancing, and singing for the entire family to enjoy. All are welcome!

Rahel Musleah on Sisterhood Shabbat—The Jewish Music of India, Jan. 23–24

Celebrate Sisterhood *Shabbat* with a special musical guest. Born in Calcutta, India, Rahel Musleah shares her rare and intimate knowledge of this ancient community's history, customs and melodies.

Dale Schatz on Shabbat Shirah Weekend, Jan. 30–31

Brought to you by *MakomDC*, Dale Schatz, a world-renowned musician and prayer leader, will lead our 6:00 pm *L'Dor VaDor* Friday night service, join our clergy in leading a spirited *Shabbat* morning service, and lead the Gan's *Havdalah* for young children.

Purim 2015: The Wizard of Adas, Wednesday, March 4, 8:00 pm

Follow the yellow brick road in this theatrical adaptation of the Purim story paired with a traditional *Megillah* reading!

Kol HaOlam V (kolhaolam.org) Saturday, March 7, 7:30 pm

Who will be crowned as the 5th champion in 2015? Come see the 5th Annual National Collegiate Jewish A Cappella Championship Competition!

Pesach—The Sound of Freedom, Sunday, March 29, 4:00 pm

Join *Kolot Halev*—a community choir directed by Hazzan Ramon Tasat—for musical inspiration during this season of our freedom. Special guest appearances by our own *hazzan* and Flash Choir.

Jewish Music—A Journey Through Time Sunday, May 31, 7:00 pm

Come travel through the ages. Enjoy the magnificent voices of

guest cantors and our own Cantor Arianne Brown, along with other special guests, for a dazzling musical journey through time.

Musical Shabbatot at Adas! **FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES @ ADAS**

Return Again to Shabbat

With Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt & Elie Greenberg

Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13, Mar. 13, May 8, June 12

Join us for a reflective journey into the power of *Shabbat*. Featuring seasoned musicians and a spiritual, ecstatic excursion into prayer and song, followed by a festive Israeli tapas-style feast:

L'Dor VaDor Shabbat

Oct. 24, Jan. 30 (with special guest Dale Schatz), March 27, April 24

Experience a joyous Friday night service for all generations, featuring full participation from our wonderful students, followed by a home-style *Shabbat* dinner for all

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES @ ADAS

Return Again to Shabbat Morning

With Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt & Elie Greenberg

Nov. 8, Nov. 22, Jan. 10, Feb. 14, May 9, June 13

You loved the Return Again Friday night experience and asked for more—and we're thrilled to bring the same soulful sounds to our *Shabbat* morning service!

Shabbat In Harmony With Robyn Helzner

Feb. 28, Mar. 28, April 25, May 23, June 27

Join our Charles E. Smith Sanctuary service on these dates for extra-special music with a folk-like quality, including spirited participatory renditions of favorite melodies and a chance to experience exciting new tunes.

Synagogue Skills Shabbaton

Hosted by the Traditional Egalitarian Minyan
Feb. 6–7

Join special guest *Hazzan* Neil Schwartz for an intensive *Shabbaton* dedicated to learning and improving your *davening* and chanting skills.

Learn more & register at adasisrael.org/musicalmoments.

Have you met Rabbi Ben Shalva?

You may have noticed that you've been seeing more and more of a delightful, talented, and exceedingly warm young rabbi, Benjamin Shalva, around Adas these days. Rabbi Shalva, a treasure for Jewish DC, has been leading all sorts of wonderful services and programs for our congregation, including *Shacharit* Live for Religious School students, *Shabbat* Sing for Gan pre-school students, *L'Dor VaDor Shabbat* Services, summer learning for Young Professionals, Mediation, and Yoga for the Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington, as well as serving on *Beit Dins* and performing other rabbinic duties.



Rabbi Ben Shalva

Ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary, where he focused on Talmud and rabbinic texts, Rabbi Shalva was born and raised in Milwaukee, WI. He served as rabbinic advisor for the Harvard University Hillel, assistant rabbi at Congregation Olam Tikvah in Fairfax, VA, and senior rabbi at Temple Reyim in Newton, MA.

He has also served as a rabbinic chaplain for Rikers Island Correctional Facility in New York City and the Nashua Street Jail in Boston. Rabbi Shalva is proficient in Suzuki violin, piano, guitar, drums, and

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even a single candle, chases darkness from an entire room, Judaism's values are a light for the world. Yet without context and deeper understanding, these phrases can seem shallow. Understanding the deeper meaning of these contemplations, taking them into our lives for their deeper richness and complexity, requires study and learning. That would be Torah study, the greatest *mitzvah*! Torah study, in all its manifestations, varieties, and styles. My experience is that Torah study dramatically enhances a sense of God, light, connection, love, and unity. It is a path to deeper personal happiness, humility, loving regard for others, and performance of *mitzvot*. Succinctly, if we learn Torah and live Torah, we will sustain Judaism. Study is our Iron Dome. Knowledge through study has been the foundation for our survival as a learned people for millennia. Without Torah knowledge,

RABBI LAUREN HOLTZBLATT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

able woman as our part-time director of lifelong learning. She will now be known officially at Adas Israel simply as Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt. For some of us, this shift might sound superfluous and odd. After all, she's always been a rabbi here—leading services, teaching, counseling. The truth is, however, that her obviously rabbinic presence in our congregation has been the product of her natural ability to go above and beyond what is asked of her. By rights, she could have clocked in and out, coordinated programs, and left each day. But that's simply not who she is. Lauren is a *rav*. She is a spiritually gifted leader and she can't help but be a source of support and inspiration in our community.

Since day one, Lauren and I have shared a singular vision for Adas Israel. I often joke that I see her not just as my friend, but as my "kid sister." She feels like family, not just to me, but to everyone on our professional staff. She is taking our shared dream of a staff, a lay leadership, and congregation that truly feels like a family together, and making that dream a reality, day by day.

Another way that Rabbi Holtzblatt is a great teacher in our community is that she is a rabbi, but also, and even more significant, a devoted mother to her children. Rabbi Feinberg will be retiring at the end of this year, and many people felt that Rabbi Holtzblatt is an obvious choice of someone to apply for his position. But Rabbi Holtzblatt decided against applying. She understands that the associate rabbi position at Adas is truly a full-time job, one that would severely compromise her ability to be there for her kids. And so

we would become diffuse, increasingly blended with the larger world, and cease to be.

Adas Israel offers multiple and creative opportunities for learning in both classes and study groups. To learn more, speak with Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt, director of lifelong learning, or Ed Kopf, chair of our Lifelong Learning Committee. Other fantastic study choices abound around town, with Jewish Study Center courses at Adas and other venues; Hebrew, Talmud, and other classes at the DC Jewish Community Center. Not ready for classes or study groups? Just buy some books and get started.

In Jewish learning we find happy optimism for a New Year. On behalf of the Board of Directors and its officers, for you and your families, we wish you a sweet year, brimming with love, joy, and the beauty of Jewish learning. —Arnie Podgorsky

she opted instead to stay fulfilling her role at Adas in the way that she has been, devoting more hours to teaching and leading and preaching when she can be available. But her family comes first. And for that courageous decision, I applaud her.

And so, our board has wisely decided that even as we will search for a new associate rabbi, we want to treasure the gift we have in Rabbi Holtzblatt. She will continue to work part time. She will continue to masterfully run our Lifelong Learning programs. And, under her new title as a rabbi at Adas Israel, you will see more of her wonderful presence at services, classes, and life cycle events. When our new associate rabbi is hired, Adas Israel will have a new and remarkable team of three rabbis and a cantor working under my direct mentorship and supervision: the associate rabbi, Rabbi Holtzblatt, Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum (our new director of education), and Cantor Arianne Brown. And, of course, we will be partnering with our new executive director, David Polonsky, on all of the exciting initiatives for moving Adas Israel forward into a renewed age of warmth, welcoming, and vision.

Our exciting new era of top-quality spiritual leadership is truly taking shape at Adas. So much of the magic that is unfolding here would not be possible without Rabbi Holtzblatt. So next time you see her, take the time to let her know what you feel about her, and wish her a *mazal tov* on being officially recognized as the rabbinic blessing she has already been here for years. ○

Experience **MakomDC**:

A Preview of the 2014/15 Season in the Adas Israel Biran Beit Midrash



Our Avraham Biran *Beit Midrash* (House of Conversation), at the heart of our renewed synagogue, features monthly thematic programming for the entire community, welcoming innovators and innovative ideas in 21st-century Jewish life.

Each month, *MakomDC* features a keynote presenter who will kick off the month with engaging sessions that explore our monthly theme in depth. The rest of the month will feature programs on the month's key topics for every community within our congregation. Visit our new, interactive website (adasisrael.org/makomdc) to learn more and take an exciting look at each month's themes and presenters below.



November: Mindfulness

Featuring Rabbi James Maisels-Jacobson,

All Weekend, Nov. 14–15

November @ *MakomDC* is all about mindfulness. Brought to you by the Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington, *MakomDC* offers programs and workshops to help deepen our experience of the spiritual, and create connections to foster a vibrant, diverse community.

Experience Jewish meditation, yoga, mindful learning, and spirited *Shabbat* and holiday programs . . . all within a uniquely Jewish context.



December: Innovation

Featuring Rabbi Aaron Alexander, , Sellout

Tues, Dec. 9, 7:30 pm

At the giving of the Torah at Sinai, we entered into a relationship with Jewish law and Jewish living. How do we continue to honor that sacred relationship, while growing outward with our ever-changing and evolving world? December @ *MakomDC* is all about unraveling the connections

between tradition and innovation.



January: Music

Featuring Dale Schatz,

All Weekend: January 30–31

Music is the language that binds us, that calls to us, that elevates us, and brings us all together. This year for *Shabbat Shira*, the congregation is very excited to welcome Dale Schatz, a wonderfully talented Jewish musician! Celebrate the entire weekend of *Shabbat Shira* (the Sabbath of Song), when we commemorate singing of

the Song of Songs after the splitting of the Red Sea and mark the entire weekend with music and joy!



February: Ritual

Featuring Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg

Tuesday, February 3, 7:30 pm

February @ *MakomDC* allows us reflect on what it really means to assimilate or radicalize our ancient rituals into our modern lives. Jewish tradition will encourage you to connect each moment, each activity, each transition with a ritual. How do we do that in 2015 with an iPhone buzzing in our pockets a hundred

times a day? Ask the Rabbi.



March: Israel

Featuring Rabbi David Rosenn

Tuesday, March 10, 7:30 pm

Less than 70 years ago, Tel Aviv was a desert, and today it is a thriving city of the arts, technology, culture, and Jewish autonomy. The early Zionists attempted to establish a better, wiser, more humane, and more moral state in the Holy Land. Explore the many facets, both cultural and spiritual, of the Jewish experience of having the

modern state of Israel in our ancient land of prophecy.



April: Food

Featuring Naftali & Anna Hanau (Grow & Behold)

Sunday, April 26, 10 am–1 pm

Judaism acknowledges almost every major holiday with a festive feast. We go out of our way to make blessings before and after consuming any food or drink, and we've developed an architectural code of eating in holiness that we all know as *kashrut*. So what's all that about? April @ *MakomDC* is all

about cooking, eating, loving our bodies, loving our flavors, and exploring what it means to be truly grateful for and connected to this most basic human activity. ○

September Office Closings

Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 1

Schools/Offices Closed

Erev Rosh Hashanah, Wednesday, Sept. 24

Schools/Offices Close at NOON

Rosh Hashanah Days 1 & 2, Thurs. & Fri., Sept. 25 & 26

Schools/Offices Closed

High Holy Days

Home Observance of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, 5775

Rosh Hashanah at Home

The celebration of *Rosh Hashanah*, like all Jewish holidays, takes place in both the synagogue and home. The mood of the holiday combines solemnity and joy. The commemoration of *Rosh Hashanah* at home can be enhanced by the following preparation and ceremonies: the table should be set in a festive manner, with a white cloth (symbolic of purity and joy), candlesticks, wine, apples and honey, and *challot* (usually round to symbolize a full, complete year). The family gathers for the lighting of the candles.

► *Rosh Hashanah* begins on Wednesday evening, September 24; candles are lit and the blessing is followed by the *She-hecheyanu*:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצותיו, וצונו להדליק נר של יום טוב.

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha-olam, asher kid-shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzevanu l'hadleek ner shel Yom Tov. Praised are You, Lord our God, Master of the universe, who has sanctified us with Your commandments and commanded us to light the festival candles.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, שהחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha-olam, she'hecheyanu, v'kee'manu, v'heegee anu lazman hazeh. Praised are You, Lord our God, Master of the universe, who has kept us in life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this season.

► Blessing of the children: It is a beautiful tradition for parents to bless their children before reciting *kiddush*. Parents place their hands on each child's head and say the appropriate blessing.

For sons:

ישמך אלהים כפארים וכמנשה.
Y'simcha Eloheem k' Efrayim v'chi Menashe.
May God make you as Ephraim and Menashe

For daughters:

ישמך אלהים כשרה רבקה רחל ולאה.
Y'simech Eloheem k' Sarah, Rivka, Rachel, v' Leah. May God make you as Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah.

For all children, continue with the Priestly Blessing:

Y'va-rekh'kha Adonai v'yish-m' rekha. May the Lord bless you and keep you; *Ya-er Adonai panav ele-kha vi-hu-neka.* May the Lord's goodness shine on you and be gracious to you; *Yisa Adonai panav ele-kha v'ya-sem l'kha shalom.* May the Lord turn with favor to you and give you peace. Amen.

► On the first night of *Rosh Hashanah*, it is traditional to dip apples in honey and recite the following prayer:

יהי רצון מלפניך, יי אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו, שתתחדש עלינו שנה טובה ומתוקה.

Y'hee ratzon milfanecha, Adonai, Elohaynu v'elohay avotaynu, she'ti-chadesh aleynu shana tovah u'metukah. May it be Your will, Lord our God, and God of our ancestors, that the New Year be both good and sweet.

► *Kiddush* for Yom Tov

► *Motzi*

On the second night of *Rosh Hashanah*, it is customary to eat a new fruit (mango, pomegranate, etc.) so that the *She-hecheyanu* may be recited. However, the *She-hecheyanu* may be recited even without eating a new fruit.

The traditional greeting for *Rosh Hashanah* is:

לשנה טובה תכתבו *L'shanah Tova Tikatevu.... May you be inscribed for a good year.*

Yom Kippur Afternoon Discussion



Join us for an afternoon discussion on the situation in the Middle East between **Amb. Martin Indyk**, special envoy for Israeli-Palestinian Negotiations of the U.S. Department of State, and **Laura Blumenfeld**, senior advisor, Office of the Special Envoy for Israeli-Palestinian Negotiations. ○

Lulav and Etrog Order Form

Orders Due Wednesday,
October 1

"...and you shall take the fruit of goodly trees...and rejoice before the Lord your God."

We encourage you to order your *lulav* and *etrog* in preparation for the festive observance of the *Sukkot* holiday. Please send your check* and order form to the attention of Naomi Malka, Adas Israel Congregation, 2850 Quebec Street NW, Washington DC 20008.

Lulavim and *etrogim* may be picked up on Tuesday, October 7, or Wednesday, October 8, between 8:30 am and 3:30 pm or at *Sukkot* services, on both *Yom Tov* and *Chol HaMoed*.

Enclosed is my check, made out to Adas Israel, for \$30 for a *lulav* and *etrog* set.

Print Name

Phone Number

*If you prefer, we can bill your synagogue account directly. Please contact Marcia, 202-362-4433, ext.112, or Marcia.Miller@adasisrael.org to make those arrangements.

HOME OBSERVANCE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Yom Kippur at Home

▶ **Memorial Candle:** It is customary to light a memorial candle for departed members of the family before lighting the holy day candles.

In the Jewish tradition, there is no official blessing recited upon lighting a *yahrzeit* candle. The reason for this is that the act of kindling the *yahrzeit* light is not the direct fulfillment of a specific *mitzvah*. The light reminds us of the *neshamot*, the souls of our beloved departed who brought light to our lives.

As Jews, we are used to having something to say at a special moment—a blessing or a prayer. At this moment, however, when the memory of a whole life is before us, there are no words. There is only silence. When Aharon the High Priest witnessed the death of his two sons, the Torah says “*Vayidom Aharon*,” “And Aharon was silent” (*Leviticus* 10:3). Silence does not necessarily represent the lack of pathos and love. It can also be the fullness of those feelings, so full in fact, that no words can adequately capture them. As we light the *yahrzeit* lights, we can notice this silence, and feel the depth of love for those whom we have lost.

▶ Blessing of the candles on Friday, October 3

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצוותיו, וצונו להדליק נר של שבת ושל יום הכיפורים.

Baruch ata Adonai, Elohaynu melech ha-olam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav, v'tzevanu l'hadleek ner shel Shabbat v'shel Yom HaKippureem. Praised are You, Lord our God, Master the universe, who has sanctified us with Your commandments and commanded us to kindle lights for *Shabbat* and *Yom Kippur*.

▶ Blessing the children on the Eve of *Yom Kippur* (*Kol Nidre*): It is traditional for parents to bless their children as the candles are lit on the eve of festivals. This is a special additional prayer for the Eve of *Yom Kippur* (*Kol Nidre*):

May it be God's will to sustain you in life and health. May your eyes not lead you astray, may your mouths speak with wisdom, may your hearts meditate with reverence, may your hands be engaged in commandments, and may your feet hasten to do God's will. May the Almighty grant you children who will grow up to be righteous, occupying themselves with Torah and commandments all their days. May the Almighty enable me to meet the obligations of parenthood, to provide amply for your needs, and to guide you toward good and upright character. May you be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Good and Long Life, together with all of the righteous. Amen.

▶ A traditional greeting for *Yom Kippur* is:

גִּמַּר חַתִּימָה טוֹבָה. *G'mar Hatimah Tovah*, May you be sealed in the Book of Life. ○

Kever Avot Memorial Services & Cemetery Hours

Jews worldwide mark the approaching High Holy Days with annual visits to the graves of departed loved ones. An ancient custom, *Kever Avot*, literally, “graves of the fathers,” dates almost as far back as Jews themselves. Gathering at the grave facilitates healing within families by creating an opportunity to grant forgiveness to one another. Others visit graves to connect with their past and to contemplate the life they want to live. The Adas Israel *Kever Avot* schedule is as follows:

Kever Avot Memorial Cemetery Service, Sunday, September 21, 10:30 am

Adas Israel Cemetery, 1400 Alabama Avenue, SE, Washington, DC
With Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

Bus leaves from the congregation at 9:30 am. Call Carol Ansell at the synagogue, 202-362-4433, to reserve a seat. Space is limited.

Judean Memorial Gardens Kever Avot Service, Sunday, September 28, 10:30 am

With Rabbi Charles Feinberg
The Adas Israel Cemetery on Alabama Avenue will be open on Sunday, September 21, from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. If you wish to visit at any other times, please call Carole Klein, 202-362-4433, ext. 157.

May the memory of your loved ones forever be a blessing and an inspiration. ○



2014 High Holy Day JMCW Programming Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington @ Adas Israel

L'Shanah Tovah!

The JMCW @ Adas offers programs and workshops

to help deepen the experience of the spiritual and create connections to foster a vibrant, diverse spiritual community. This year, heighten your spiritual experience of the pinnacle of our High Holy Day calendar with the following mindful programs:

Spiritual Shofar Blowing

Sunday, Sept. 14, 10:30 am

We will take a deep breath and learn all about the *shofar*. The workshop will culminate with an outdoor group *shofar* blowing on the steps of Adas Israel. Please bring your own *shofar*.

Led by Jennie Litvack

Return Again: Spirited Holiday Services Outdoor Kol Nidre service for the wandering Jew

Friday, Oct. 3, 7:30 pm, Outdoor Plaza

Our FREE soulful Return Again *Kol Nidre* services have drawn thousands to a spirited outdoor worship experience unlike any other in Washington DC.

Led by Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt & Elie Greenberg

Photographic Meditation on Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, Sept. 21, 10:00 am

A two-hour program using metaphorical imagery, chanting, and a short sit to open the channels for the coming year.

Led by Betty Adler

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Schedule of Services

ROSH HASHANAH EVE*

No Tickets Required

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

6:00 pm & 8:00 pm*

FIRST DAY ROSH HASHANAH

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Shacharit	8:15 am	Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
Torah Service	9:15 am	Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, Kay Hall, Gewirz Beit Am
"Return Again" Service	10:00 am	Biran Beit Midrash/Kogod Chapel
Shofar	10:00 am	Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, Kay Hall, Gewirz Beit Am
Family Service	10:30 am	Cohen-Wolpe Hall
Children's Services	10:30 am	see page 6 in the High Holy Day guide for locations
Musaf	10:40 pm	All locations
Sermon	11:00 am	All locations
Family Tashlich	12:00 pm	meet on Connecticut Avenue Plaza
USY Hike and Tashlich Service (9th–12th graders)	12:00 pm	meet in Quebec Street Lobby
Community Tashlich	5:30 pm	meet at Quebec Street entrance
Mincha/Maariv	6:45 pm	Gewirz Beit Am

SECOND DAY ROSH HASHANAH*

No Tickets Required

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Preliminary Service and Shacharit	8:15 am	One Service – Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
Combined Torah & Shofar Service	9:30 am – 10:45 am	One Service – Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
Pre-school (Gan) Service	9:30 am – 10:30 am	Cohen-Wolpe Hall
Children's Services	10:30 am	see page 6 in the High Holy Day guide for locations
Creative Musical Musaf Service with choir & instruments and Sermon	10:45 am	Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
Traditional Musaf Service and Sermon	10:45 am	Kay Hall
Mincha/Maariv	6:45 pm	Gewirz Beit Am

KOL NIDRE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

Mincha	5:45 pm	One Service – Gewirz Beit Am
Kol Nidre	6:15 pm	Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, Gewirz Beit Am, Kay Hall
"Return Again" Kol Nidre	7:30 pm	Connecticut Avenue Plaza

YOM KIPPUR

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 (PLEASE NOTE YIZKOR TIME)

Shacharit	9:00 am	One Service – Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
"Return Again" Service	10:00 am	Biran Beit Midrash/Kogod Chapel
Family Service	10:30 am	Cohen-Wolpe Hall
Children's Services	10:30 am	see page 6 in the High Holy Day Guide for locations
Torah Service	11:00 am (approx.)	All locations
Yizkor	11:40 am (approx.)	All locations
Teen Discussion (7th–12th graders)	12:15 pm	Library
Sermon	12:15 pm (approx.)	All locations
Musaf & Martyrology	12:40 pm (approx.)	All locations
Afternoon Discussion	3:30 pm	Kay Hall, with Ambassador Martin Indyk
JMCW Meditation & Chant	4:45 pm (approx.)	Library
Mincha	5:00 pm	One Service Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
Late Yizkor	5:30 pm	Biran Beit Midrash/Kogod Chapel
Pre-school (Gan) Service	5:45 pm	Cohen-Wolpe Hall
N'eelah*	6:15 pm	Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
Traditional Minyan N'eelah*	6:15 pm	Gewirz Beit Am
Shofar*	7:35 pm (approx.)	Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

*No Tickets Required

The Original Greeter

Creating a Warm & Welcoming Community at Adas Israel

A Message from Marcy Spiro, Director of Membership Engagement



Marcy joined the Adas staff last year after a successful career in community engagement at Shakespeare Theatre Company. She is the congregation's creative team leader responsible for helping members, potential members, guests, and school parents find their niche within our large and diverse community. Whether you're a new member or a member of 50 years, Marcy is eager to meet you and help to facilitate fulfilling relationships with our clergy and staff (and with other members!), and to

help you get the most out of our community's varied offerings, and congregational life as a whole.

In Parashat Vayera (Genesis 18:1 -22:24-Va'year) we read:

The Lord appeared to him by the terebinths (oak trees) of Mamre; he was sitting at the entrance of the tent as the day grew hot. Looking up, he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them, he ran from the entrance of the tent to greet them and, bowing to the ground, he said, "My Lords, if it please you, do not go on past your servant. Let a little water be brought; bathe your feet and recline under the tree. And let me fetch a morsel of bread that you may refresh yourselves; then go on—seeing that you have come your servant's way." They replied, "Do as you have said."

Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Quick, three seahs of choice flour! Knead and make cakes!" Then Abraham ran to the herd, took a calf, tender and choice, and gave it to a servant-boy, who hastened to prepare it. He took curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared and set these before them; and he waited on them under the tree as they ate.

I had the privilege of attending a seminar this past spring with Dr. Ron Wolfson, author of several books, including *The Spirituality of Welcoming* and *Relational Judaism*. We read these texts in *chevrotot* (groups of study partners) and then came back as a large group to discuss.

We discussed a number of things about these texts:

- Abraham stopped his prayers; his conversation with G-d to welcome the strangers. Abraham felt it was more important to welcome the strangers than to continue praying. The divine presence can be found within the interaction between people.
- Abraham does not work alone to welcome the strangers and show them hospitality. He asks for help to welcome them and prepare the feast.
- Abraham's location was integral to creating a warm environment. He was sitting at the entrance of the tent so that he could see everyone passing by and greet them.

Since joining the professional staff of Adas Israel, I have worked hard to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere for

everyone who walks in our doors to attend classes, services, dinners, etc. We all need to be more like Abraham and work together to be more welcoming. We have wonderful volunteers who greet others every Saturday morning in the main lobby, but that welcoming feeling needs to exist throughout the entire building, each day of the week.

Just like the Metro announcement reminds us, "If you see something, say something," our new mantra can be, "If you see someone, say something." If you see someone you don't know sitting by him or herself during services, I encourage you to greet this person with a simple "*Shabbat Shalom*," ask if this is the person's first time, if he or she is new to the area, etc. We should learn from Abraham and take the initiative to approach those we do not already know.

Dr. Wolfson provided us with "7 Tips for Great Greeting":

- **Acknowledge** the presence of the other; don't ignore him or her.
- **Approach** people; make the first move and, if nothing else, smile at them.
- **Greet** others with a simple *Shabbat Shalom* on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings.
- **Help** others with assistance and/or directions. Show them to the restrooms, hand them your *siddur*, or tell them what page we're on if they arrive late or appear lost or confused.
- **Answer** all questions with respect.
- **Introduce** new people to others. Try to connect a newcomer to at least one other person.
- **Thank** people for coming and tell them you hope to see them again.

As I am still a relative newcomer to Adas Israel, I would love the opportunity to meet more people. Please feel free to contact me to set up an informal chat over coffee or over the phone; I love meeting new people, playing some Jewish geography (I've learned that there is always a Rochester, NY, connection), and finding all of our commonalities. You can reach me at 202-362-4433, ext. 113, or marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org.

As we start our new year, 2014-2015 and 5775, I look forward to working with you to make Adas Israel a sacred and welcoming community for all who enter our doors.

—*L'Shalom*, Marcy ◯

RABBI BEN SHALVA CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Native American flute. He has beautifully incorporated theater and music into his work with Jewish communities as a camp and youth group song leader, "Friday Night Live" service leader, and High Holy Day cantor as well as here at Adas. He has also composed a series of Torah-based folk songs, and is a professionally trained yoga and meditation leader.

It's a pleasure to have Rabbi Shalva, a true renaissance rabbi, participate regularly in community life at Adas. And you can find him at all of the services and programs mentioned above, and more. *Mah tov!* ◯

Yom Kippur Food Drive 2014

Hundreds will NOT EAT if we do not STEP UP. Give meaning to your fast. Give food to those who need it most.



Your Yom Kippur experience is simply not complete if you walk through Adas's doors without something to offer to the Ezra Pantry Food Collection. All the food you bring (canned goods, pastas, cereals, rice, beans, condiments, etc.) will be brought directly to SOME (So Others Might Eat), Inc., a grassroots, nonprofit, interfaith organization that for more than 43 years has been helping District residents who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to transition to self-sufficiency. Every day, SOME serves 850 hot meals in its dining room. In 2013, SOME served 433,811 meals to hungry men, women, and children.

SOME also features a small food pantry for homeless families in the community. Those of us who have visited SOME and follow its progress continue to be impressed by its amazing work for hundreds of hungry and at-risk people who find food, comfort, and guidance within its walls. We help make that happen. As Jews, we strengthen our resolve to commit ourselves to sacred acts of kindness—in the toughest parts of town, for the people who need it most.

During the High Holy Days, culminating at *Kol Nidre*, bring food for the collection bins. **Don't just think about it; do it.** Pick up extra goods every time you're at the grocery store, or just grab a little of what is left over in the back cabinet of your kitchen. **It all helps, it all heals . . . it all represents the essence of what Yom Kippur is about: Being the absolute best person we can be in this world, in this moment.**

Is such the fast I desire, a day for men to starve their bodies?...No, this is the fast I desire: To unlock the fetters of wickedness, and untie the cords of lawlessness....It is to share your bread with the hungry, and to take the wretched poor into your home; when you see the naked clothe him and not to ignore your own kin.

Isaiah 58:5–7 (excerpts).

Judith Kroner (Judith.kroner@gmail.com) is Ezra Pantry co-ordinator, and Nechama Masliansky (nmasliansky@some.org) is our liaison with SOME. Feel free to contact them with any questions. We look forward to accepting and delivering your gifts. And, as ever, *g'mar chatimah tovah*. ○

JMCW PROGRAMMING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Yom Kippur Meditation & Chant

Yom Kippur, Saturday, Oct. 4 (roughly 3:34 pm)

Calming our bodies and minds, opening our hearts, and awakening our spirits through mindful practices can help us move into the new year refreshed, alert, and enthusiastic.

Led by Susan Barocas and Michelle Buzgon

Two by Two: A Supportive Mikvah Experience

Find a friend or bring your partner and prepare together for the new year. Schedule two back-to-back *mikvah* immersions (each one is private) and support each other as you discuss your intentions and challenges for the new year.

Led by Naomi Malka ○

Seeking a Rabbi at Adas

The Rabbi search process has begun. The required documents have been submitted to the Joint Placement Committee of the Rabbinic Assembly and the search committee had its first meeting in July. Rabbi Steinlauf and synagogue president Arnie Podgorsky shared the vision and description of this clergy position, and committee members discussed the search process, which will be similar to the one the congregation experienced for its successful senior rabbi search.

Committee members are Jamie Butler, chair, Rhoda Baruch, Sandra Eskin, Jeffrey Goodell, Andrew Herman, Steven Himmelfarb, Harriet Isack, Alan Roth, Rae Grad, and Judith Kroner. Ex officio members are Ricki Gerger, Herlene Nagler, Arnie Podgorsky, David Polonsky, and Rabbi Steinlauf.

Look for updates on the Adas website, in the *Chronicle*, and in our regular congregational e-mails. The committee will invite finalists for a *Shabbat* weekend sometime in January and February, and the committee will solicit feedback from the congregation. Questions, comments, and your thoughts can be sent anytime to our dedicated rabbi search e-mail, rabbisearch@adasisrael.org. We look forward to a very successful search process and our new rabbi joining us in July 2015. ○

Follow Us on Facebook

Join the Community . . . Follow Us on Facebook



Visit our Adas Israel Facebook Page at facebook.com/adasisraeldc to get up-to-the-minute information in your community.

Just "like" our page! Our goal is 3,000 fans by Rosh Hashanah. A special prize will be drawn from our first 3,000 fans. Join in the fun! ○

Ma Tovu

HONORING OUR LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

David Polonsky: Have You Met Our New Executive Director?

Interviewed by Naomi Malka

So, how was your summer?

It's certainly been a busy (and exciting!) summer at Adas. While the building may appear quiet, the offices are all buzzing getting ready for the excitement of the High Holy Days, as well as our robust fall programming calendars. The staff has been working incredibly hard to make the coming year a success, and I've been extremely impressed with the team and the Adas lay leadership. I also have some great personal news to report! Over the summer, I built up my courage and asked Heather (my incredible partner of four years—many of you know her) to be my wife—and she said yes! I'm obviously still *kveling*. Not only is she one of the best high school English teachers in DC, her dedication to her *yiddishkeit*, to her family, and to her friends is a continuous source of inspiration to me and to others. We both look forward to celebrating our *simcha* with the Adas Israel community in the near future.

How did you first come to Adas?

It's a funny story. When I moved to DC six years ago to run the subscriptions marketing department at the Kennedy Center, I found myself doing a lot of "shul-hopping." Heather and I spent a lot of time looking for the rabbis and synagogues where we felt the most at home. We quickly discovered that Adas Israel was an exciting and vibrant community that emphasized strong, meaningful relationships with Jewish traditions and values, while encouraging us to find a path that was also comfortable and practical for us. A little over two years ago, I attended a *Shavuot* learning session with Rabbi Steinlauf where he talked about the nature of God and Judaism. I said to myself, "I ought to talk to this man." A few weeks later, on a random Sunday afternoon, I meandered over to Adas Israel for *mincha*. I flagged the Rabbi after the *minyan*, and we adjourned to his office to talk Judaism. By the end of the conversation, he asked me to apply for the communications director position here at Adas! I said I'd think about it – but being as industrious as he is, he called me back and insisted that I interview for the role. A month later I settled into my new office to begin the journey that has led me to where I am today. Throughout the five months that I served as an acting executive director alongside the amazing Carole Klein, the word *beshert* continued to come up in conversations with the clergy, leadership and staff. This unforeseen path from communications director to acting executive director to executive director for the community that I care so deeply about all started with an off-the-cuff decision to go and do a little *davening* at the local conservative synagogue. The rest is history.

What is your favorite holiday?

Very tough question. I suppose I'll have to say *Shabbat*! My favorite time of the week is when the sun sets on Friday night.



Moments after David Proposed at Disney World

Lighting candles and making *Kiddush* with Heather is our weekly happiness! However, since we are (at the time of writing this) within the three weeks between the 17th of *Tammuz* and the 9th of *Av*, I'll admit that I've always been a little embarrassed to say how much I actually "look forward" to *Tisha b'Av*. Even though it's a mournful fast day, I find *Tisha b'Av* to be one of the most inspiring and moving Jewish holidays. There is something quite meaningful about sitting on the candle-lit floor surrounded by your community, listening to the sounds of *Eicha* being chanted. In this collective, supportive environment, we sit with ourselves and come face to face with the brokenness of the world and within our own hearts. It's an honest holiday, one that inspires us to perform acts of *Tikkun* in our own lives and in the world around us. One of the things I admire most about the Jewish community is that we have created this comprehensive spiritual toolkit that empowers us to engage with every aspect of life, the sorrowful and the joyful. And, most important, we do it as a community.

What is your spiritual vision for our community?

We are here for each other. We must always be here for each other. I look to the good work of the Bereavement Committee as an example. Being a member at Adas means that if, God forbid, you should find yourself in a time of grief and loss, within hours, a member of your community will likely show up at your doorstep, having already seen to many of the complicated arrangements. I am continuously moved to see our members taking care of each other and fostering deep relationships with each other, and with their own Jewishness. As many of you are, I am inspired and motivated by the comprehensive vision for Judaism in the 21st century that Rabbi Steinlauf has been articulating over the last few years. Together with our clergy, he has taught me about a living, breathing Judaism, a Judaism that isn't just for occasional calendar dates or lifecycle events. I learned that whatever my relationship was to the Torah or to the God of Israel at any given moment,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

Life Cycle

B'nai Mitzvah



Cadence Thakur, September 6

Cadence is the daughter of Gail and Manavendra Thakur. Reared in an international and interfaith family, Cadence has attended the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School since kindergarten and is now an eighth grader at the French International School in Bethesda. Her interests include

learning languages, competing in fencing, and reading fiction.

She shares this *simcha* with family and friends.



Samuel Lerner, September 6

Sammy, son of Inna and Mark Lerner, is a seventh grader at Lowell School and at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. He began his Jewish education at Gan HaYeled and graduated from the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital. Sammy shares this *simcha* with his brother, Misha,

his grandparents, and other family and friends. His interests are geography, meteorology, and Spanish.



Ari Gershengorn, September 13

Ari, son of Gail Levine and Ian Gershengorn, is an eighth grader at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. Ari started his Jewish education at Gan HaYeled. He celebrates his *bar mitzvah* with his brothers Caleb and Nathan, his grandparents, and other family and friends.

In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of synagogue members:

Michael Berg, husband of Linda Berg

Melvyn Estrin, husband of Suellen Estrin

Lovell Olender, wife of Jack Olender

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:

Harvey Bodansky, son of Harry Bodansky (z"l)

Esther Nussdorf, mother of Larry Nussdorf

Naftali Fraenkel, Gilad Shaar, and Eyal Yifrah

Life Cycle Information

When Death Occurs

When death occurs, please call the synagogue office, 202-362-4433, so that we may inform the clergy and be of assistance. During business hours, ask for Carole Klein. After business hours, a staff member on call may be reached by calling the synagogue office at the number above and pressing "2" to be connected automatically, or by calling the answering service, 301-421-5271, which will page the staff member on call. On *Yom Tov* and *Shabbat*, even though detailed funeral arrangements should not be made, a staff member on call can still be reached at 301-421-5271.

Cemetery Hours

Visitation at the Adas Israel Cemetery is by appointment only. Contact Carole Klein at the synagogue office (202-362-4433) to schedule a visit.

Adas Israel Community Mikvah



Our *mikvah* is a sacred space where Jews can mark life transitions with powerful physical ritual. Immersing in a *mikvah* connects the body to the water cycle of our

planet and to the sources of life. People visit our *mikvah* to observe the *mitzvah* of monthly immersion; to celebrate *s'machot*; to find strength during a difficult time; to pray for healing; to reflect on the meaning of becoming a bride, groom, or *bar or bat mitzvah*; to convert to Judaism; and to prepare physically and spiritually for *chagim*. To learn more about our *mikvah* or to schedule an appointment, contact Naomi Malka, 202-841-8776 or mikvah@adasisrael.org. For more information, visit adasisrael.org/mikvah. ◯

Kol HaMayim

Mikvah Guide Training, Tuesday, Oct 21, 7:00–8:30 pm

Mikvah guides support people through profound moments of personal and spiritual transitions and facilitate a connection to the holy through Jewish ritual. They offer themselves as witnesses to both quiet moments and joyous celebrations. *Mikvah* guides can attest to the beauty of Jewish tradition in addressing the sanctity of the body.

This fall, the Adas Israel Community *Mikvah* is looking to train a third cadre of volunteers. This opportunity is open to women and men of all ages, from all levels of Jewish observance. No experience is necessary. A background in social work, therapy, or health care may be useful, but anyone with the right amount of sensitivity to others can be a good guide. This is a great opportunity for learning, growth and connection.

Some occasions when your guidance might be called upon include life cycle events, infertility, healing, aging, conversions, and monthly cycles.

Again, you don't have to be a *mikvah* user to become a *mikvah* guide and no minimum time commitment is required. There will be an orientation at Adas on October 21 and ongoing informal training based on your schedule. For questions or more information, or to express interest even if you can't come on October 21, please contact Naomi Malka, 202-841-8776 or Mikvah@adasisrael.org. —Naomi Malka ◯

September 2014
Elul 5774 – Tishrei 5775

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES: Please turn off cell phones and pagers before entering services.
Charles E. Smith Sanctuary: Join us for our Shabbat morning services in the renewed Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, the synagogue's largest worship space, led by our inspiring Rabbi and Cantor. The service includes a D'var Torah and sermon by the Rabbi and often includes participation by members and B'nai Mitzvah.
Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (TEM): Every Shabbat morning at 9:30 am, with the Torah service around 10:30 am. Led by laypeople with the occasional assistance of Adas clergy, the TEM is a participatory service with a full P'sukei D'Zimrah (introductory Psalms), Shacharit, and Musaf, a complete reading of the weekly Torah portion, and a d'var Torah. For more information, e-mail traditionalminyan@adasisrael.org.
Havurah Service: Lay-led, participatory service at 9:45 am. Rotating volunteers lead services, read Torah, and conduct an in-depth discussion of the weekly Torah portion. A kiddush follows the service. For additional information and to participate, e-mail havurah@adasisrael.org.

Youth Shabbat Services: Starting with Tot Shabbat for children ages 5 and under led by Menuhah Peters. Netivot, for students in grades K–3, is led by Linda Yitzchak, Allison Redisch, Rina Bardin, and/or Naomi Michaelis. Junior Congregation, for grades 4–6, is led by David Smolar and/or the Steinsaltz Ambassadors.
Shabbat Unplugged: A new musical family service for families with young children on Saturday mornings at 10:45 am. The service is designed for elementary school families and above, though older children are welcome and encouraged take on leadership roles.
'Dial-in' for Programs & Services: If you are unable to attend programs, lectures, or services, dial in to hear them. Call 202-686-8405.
Library Open on Shabbat: Our third-floor library is open on Shabbat following services. You may sign out materials using our "no-writing Shabbat method," explained in signs on the check-out desks. For assistance during the week, contact our Director of Library Services, Robin Jacobson (librarian@adasisrael.org).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 5 Elul	1 9:00 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6 Elul	2 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Introduction to Judaism—Conversion 7 Elul	3 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting 8 Elul	4 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 9 Elul	5 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 7:30 pm Shir Delight Service; 8:00 pm D'var Torah by Rabbi Holtzblatt 8:30 pm Shir Delight Dinner 10 Elul	6 PARSHAT KI TETZE 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service— Bat Mitzvah: Cadence Thakur; Sermon by Rabbi Feinberg 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan with Rabbi Steinlauf; Bar Mitzvah: Samuel Lerner 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Netivot 11 Elul
7 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Adas Book Chat 10:00 am Challah Baking Class 11:00 am Hesed Committee Meeting 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 12 Elul	8 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 13 Elul	9 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Anne Frank House Board Meeting 7:00 pm Introduction to Judaism—Conversion 7:00 pm Bereavement Support Group 7:30 pm Genealogy Program with Connie Krupin 14 Elul	10 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:15 pm Men's Club Ushers/ CPR Training 15 Elul	11 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 16 Elul	12 7:30 am Morning Minyan 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:30 pm Return Again Service with Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt 6:30 pm Traditional Lay-Led Shabbat Service 7:30 pm Return Again Dinner 7:30 pm Ari Gershengorn Shabbat Dinner 17 Elul	13 PARSHAT KI TAVO 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service; Sermon by Rabbi Feinberg 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan with Rabbi Steinlauf; Bar Mitzvah: Ari Gershengorn 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Netivot 11:00 am Junior Congregation 18 Elul
14 9:00 am Morning Minyan 9:30 am Board of Directors Retreat 10:00 am Torah Partners Opening Breakfast 10:30 am Adas Book Chat 10:30 am JMCW Mindful Yoga 10:30 am JMCW Spiritual Shofar Blowing 12:00 pm Inclusion Task Force Meeting 1:00 pm Sisterhood Opening Event: Jewish Food Experience 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 19 Elul	15 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Social Action Committee Meeting 20 Elul	16 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Introduction to Judaism—Conversion 21 Elul	17 7:30 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Gan Music with Robyn 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting 22 Elul	18 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 23 Elul	19 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 5:00 pm Happy Half Hour 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 5:30 pm Young Family Shabbat Service with Cantor Brown & Robyn Helzner 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat; D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf 6:30 pm Young Family Shabbat Dinner 24 Elul	20 PARSHAT NITZAVIM/VAYELECH 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service; with Rabbis Steinlauf & Holtzblatt 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Netivot 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush 25 Elul
21 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am JMCW Photography Workshop 10:30 am Adas Israel Kever Avot Service with Rabbi Steinlauf 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 26 Elul	22 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 27 Elul	23 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Introduction to Judaism—Conversion 28 Elul	24 Erev Rosh Hashanah 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:00 pm Erev Rosh Hashanah Service (early service) 8:00 pm Erev Rosh Hashanah Service (late service) 29 Elul	25 Rosh Hashanah Day 1 8:15 am Shacharit Service 9:15 am RH Torah Service & Shofar 10:00 am "Return Again" Service with Rabbi Holtzblatt 10:30 am Family Services 11:00 am Sermons 12:00 pm Family Tashlich 12:00 pm USY Tashlich & Hike (grades 9-12) 1:00 pm YP Rosh Hashanah Hike 5:30 pm Community Tashlich 6:45 pm Mincha/Maariv 30 Elul	26 Rosh Hashanah Day 2 7:30 am Morning Minyan 8:15 am Shacharit Service 9:30 am Rosh Hashanah Torah and Shofar Service 9:30 am Pre-School (Gan) Service 10:30 am Children's Services 10:45 am Creative Musical Musaf Service with Choir & Instruments; and Sermon 10:45 am Traditional Musaf Service and Sermon 6:45 pm Mincha/Maariv Services 1 Tishrei	27 PARSHAT HA'AZINU/SHABBAT SHUVAH 9:30 am Combined Smith & TEM Shabbat Morning Service; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 7:40 pm Havdalah 2 Tishrei
28 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:30 am JCCW Mindful Yoga 10:30 am Judean Kever Avot Service with Rabbi Feinberg 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 3 Tishrei	29 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:50 am Shofar Blowing 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 4 Tishrei	30 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren 9:50 am Shofar Blowing 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Introduction to Judaism—Conversion 5 Tishrei	1 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:50 am Shofar Blowing 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting 6 Tishrei	2 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:50 am Shofar Blowing 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7 Tishrei	3 Kol Nidre 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 5:45 pm Mincha 6:15 pm Kol Nidre 7:30 pm "Return Again" Kol Nidre with Rabbi Holtzblatt 8 Tishrei	4 Yom Kippur 9:00 am Yom Kippur-Shacharit 10:00 am "Return Again" Srvc with Rabbi Holtzblatt 10:30 am Family Service 10:30 am Children's Services 11:00 am Yom Kippur Torah Service 11:40 m Yizkor 12:15 pm Teen Discussion (for 7th-12th Graders) 12:15 pm Sermon 12:40 pm Musaf & Martyrology 3:30 pm Discussion with Amb. Martin Indyk 4:45 pm JMCW Yom Kippur Meditation and Chant 5:00 pm Mincha 5:30 pm Late Yizkor 5:45 pm Pre-School (Gan) Service 6:15 pm Neelah 7:29 pm Havdalah 7:35 pm Shofar 8:00 pm YP Break the Fast Congregational Break-the-Fast, underwritten by Elinor Tattar in memory of Dr. Stuart R. Tattar & by the congregation 9 Tishrei

Sisterhood

Sisterhood Donates \$20,000 to Adas



At the June 11 Annual Meeting, two of the Gift Shop's three co-chairs, **Jean Bernard** (right) and **Susan Winberg** (middle), pictured at left, presented a \$20,000 facsimile check to synagogue

president Arnie Podgorsky, representing the shop's 2013–14 contribution to the congregation. While the amount varies depending on the shop's proceeds, this is an annual donation Sisterhood is delighted to make to our *shul*, thanks to the jewel in Sisterhood's crown, the Ruth and Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop.

At Sisterhood's closing event June 8, Arnie had praised another virtue of Sisterhood saying, "... making people feel welcome is not new to Sisterhood. Sisterhood has been at this from its inception; Sisterhood could have written the book but has been too busy doing to make the time for writing." Thank you for the recognition, Arnie.

Also at that meeting, incoming president Marcy Feuerstein (right) presented immediate past president **Lisa Kleine** with a thank-you gift from Sisterhood (a *challah* server purchased from the Sisterhood Gift Shop, of course!). Marcy set the tone for her term with an inaugural address about the power of dreams and the importance of building enduring relationships in the setting that Sisterhood offers.



Your New Board and Officers

Executive Committee/Officers—Installed for 2014–2016 are President Marcia (Marcy) Feuerstein and Recording Secretary Nadine Jacobs. Continuing into their second year of office and concluding in 2015 are Corresponding Secretary Carol Ansell; Treasurer Dava Berkman; VP Communications Joyce Stern; VP Membership June Kress; and Parliamentarian Miriam Rosenthal. The posts of Vice President Education/Programming and Financial Secretary are currently unfilled.

General Board—These members continue in the second year of a two-year term: Rebecca Boggs, Carmel Chiswick, Rachel Eitches, Marcie Goldstein, Maria Laszlo-Sloan, Gerry Lezell, Gail Roache, Elizabeth Sloan, Sabrina Sojourner, Betsy Strauss, Sara

Vogler, Julie Weisman, and Linda Yitzchak. These members commence a two-year term: Marilyn Cooper, Tzipora Fromberg, Leah Hadad, Lucy Hassell, Myra Promisel, Deborah Wallach, and Nancy Weiss.

Sisterhood wishes to express its deep appreciation to Marian Fox, Janet Kolodner, Dale Sorcher, and Maricy Schmitz each of whom concluded a two-year term in 2014, and to Susan Klein who served one year as Co-VP Education/Programming.

Upcoming Events

All Sisterhood members and friends, spouses, and significant others are invited to the Adas Israel Sisterhood Opening Event, "A Taste of



Honey—and Wine," Sunday September 14, 2:00–4:00 pm, at the synagogue. Just in time for the holidays, we'll sample Israeli wines, share holiday recipes, and more. The event is co-chaired by **Tzipy Fromberg**, tfberg@gmail.com, and **Sara Vogler**, sara.vogler@gmail.com.

Couvert is one favorite holiday recipe plus \$5 or one favorite recipe plus **paid up membership!** RSVP to Carol Ansell@adasisrael.org or call her at 202-362-4433. *Please be sure to e-mail your favorite recipe to the chairs or bring it to the event.*

Earlier that day, at 10:30 am, join other congregants in the first Book Chat of the year, a discussion of *The Aleppo Codex*.

Taste of Tanach with Rabbi Steinlauf resumes on Tuesday September 16, 10:00–11:00 am.

On October 5, Sisterhood will join in building and decorating the synagogue's *sukkah*, now a congregation-wide enterprise. See details elsewhere in this *Chronicle*.

Sisterhood has lots of other programs and events coming up, including potluck *Shabbat* dinners, our annual "Sisterhood Goes to the Movies," a *Hanukkah* party, and, in 2015, our very popular Sisterhood *Shabbat* weekend. Choose one, choose all, but come and be a part of Sisterhood. You'll be glad you did.

This Year, Let's Reach the Torah Fund Goal. The 5775 Torah Fund campaign has begun. Last year, we raised nearly \$9,000, which was short of our goal. (The goal of \$12,000 was set by Women's League in proportion to the size of our membership, though the campaign is *shul*-wide.) How could this be? The math tells the story: Last year, fewer than a third of our members contributed to Torah Fund. **But YOU can change that equation this year.**

Torah Fund addresses the future of our movement—nothing less. While we welcome any amount, if each of us contributed **\$36**, we'd exceed this year's goal. Please send your generous check to Torah Fund Chair **Gerry Lezell**, 5800 Magic Mountain Drive, Rockville, MD 20852.

It All Starts with YOU, So Join Sisterhood Today

Dues for 5775 are now being accepted. Make your membership check payable to *Adas Israel Sisterhood* (Basic Membership=\$36; Contributor=\$54; Patron=\$72; Other=\$____) and provide your contact information. Or you can use the form provided in the recent mailing. Send your payment to Treasurer **Dava Berkman**, 2475 Virginia Avenue, NW, Apt. 803, Washington, DC 20037.

Women's League for Conservative Judaism Annual Convention

Myra Promisel (right) and Jean Bernard relax on the final day of the Women's League for Conservative Judaism Annual Convention, July 17-20, in Whippany, NJ. Myra, who was a WLCJ officer, will continue as a member of the organization's Board of Directors.



Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop

Getting ready for the High Holy Days?
Have you considered a new *tallit* for a new year?
Come in and see our beautiful new ones for men and women and for *b'nai mitzvah*.



Regular Shop Hours Return September 7:
Sunday-Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 9:30 am-12:30 pm
Tuesday, 9:30 am-3:00 pm and 6:15-8:00 pm

202-364-2888

adasgiftshop@gmail.com

Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation.

GOLD-STANDARD MUSICAL FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

Book by Joseph Stein
Music by Jerry Bock
Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick
Directed by Molly Smith
In the Fichandler Stage
October 31, 2014 – January 4, 2015



Save the Date:
Fiddler of the Roof at Arena Stage with
Adas Israel Members
Followed by talk back with clergy and cast!
Sunday, December 7, 1:00 pm

Celebrate the 50th anniversary of an American classic at one of the great DC theaters with your Adas community! Join Adas families, clergy, and staff for this wonderful afternoon performance in Arena's in-the-round theater. Online registration will be available soon. You can also RSVP for the performance by calling Carol Ansell at the synagogue, 202-362-4433.

More than just a poor milkman, Tevye is a humble Jewish father who finds his devotion to God severely tested by his headstrong daughters, who want to be their own matchmakers, and the increasingly ruthless government forcing him from his land. With a jubilant and masterful score, including "If I Were a Rich Man," "Sunrise, Sunset," "Matchmaker, Matchmaker," and "Tradition," Tony nominee Jonathan Hadary makes his Arena debut as Tevye in this celebration of family, community, and life's unexpected miracles, large and small.

If you're an Arena Stage subscriber and already have tickets to this production for a different date, you can also exchange them for the December 7 matinee so you can enjoy it with Adas friends and family. Buses will likely be provided from Adas Israel and from Somerset House in Chevy Chase. Details TBA.

From Arena Stage Artistic Director, Molly Smith:

I love Fiddler. I grew up with this music and it was such an integral part of my family that it became part of our own tradition. It's the concept of tradition and specifically changing tradition that is such an exciting, contemporary idea to me. I can't wait to introduce this perfect American musical to young people who can carry on its music and its message for another 50 years.

Education

A New Year at Gan HaYeled

The Gan is starting off the new year at full speed. Our new additional 12-month class is building on the success of last year's two pilot classes. Our popular music and movement classes continue to be favorites of the children, and our professional staff is filled with innovative ideas after its week of professional development that preceded the school's opening.

As the Gan incorporates into practice the latest research on early childhood learning and education, families and staff are engaged in learning along with the children. The deepest learning for children occurs when it happens in conjunction with observant, questioning adults. What may seem like simple fun and games to your child are in fact techniques based on the latest in child development research, used to encourage cognitive, social, and physical skills. The Gan is at the forefront of this and other best practices. **We encourage you to ask questions about our process and get involved: the answers may surprise you!**

Please remember, the Gan welcomes the entire Adas community at all of our school and community events. Coming up this fall are: Life After the Gan (post-preschool opportunities for children in the Metro area); monthly family *Shabbat* dinners (first one is September 19), and *Shabbat* Sing (weekly, 11:20–11:40 am). If you're new to the community, please join us! And introduce yourself! ○

Religious School Announcing the Opening of School Sunday, September 7, for All Grades and Classes!

We are excited to announce that the first day of school for everyone, Pre-K through 7th grade, will be Sunday September 7. We look forward to welcoming you all then. If you can't wait that long, stop by the (newly painted!) Education offices— we'd love to see you.

When the newly comprised educational team sat down together for the first time, it was clear that we have a lot in common. While we



each have our own unique perspectives that are fitting of both our individuality and the specific roles we play here at Adas, we found that we were often echoing one another's sentiments, albeit in different words. To that end, we decided to share a small

piece of those conversations with you all. Below please find a mini "interview" with the Education Team.

Why you are passionate about Jewish education?

Rabbi Rosenbaum: ...Because my life was fundamentally changed by people along my Jewish journey who invested in me and my educational experience, and I'd like to be able to do that for others.

Rich Dinetz: I'm all about Jewish education because of its roots in community building, which is just fantastic. It's people coming together, learning what it means to be a good person. We end up building this network of people, this connection of people who share the same values and ideals.

Lacy LeBlanc: I'm passionate about Jewish education because that's how I ultimately found my own Jewish identity. It wasn't until grad school that I really felt myself to be a part of the larger community.

What is one memorable thing about your own Jewish education?

Rabbi Rosenbaum: I remember a very particular moment in high school during my first summer in an immersive Jewish experience where I realized that this Jewish community that I was a part of was everything that I hadn't realized I was looking for. I found friendships, shared values, a sense of tradition, a feeling of "home" (and lots of fun, which can never be underestimated!).

Rich Dinetz: My Jewish education primarily happened in summer camp. I learned through community building and *ruach* what it meant to have a Jewish identity. As years went on, it only got stronger, and it led me to accruing more formalized Jewish education through grad school.

Lacy LeBlanc: Speaking in general terms, as someone who didn't have much of a formal Jewish upbringing, I was amazed at how much I genuinely loved Jewish learning. I felt almost instantly at home, and the experience really helped my own Judaism to blossom and flourish.

What does team mean to you?

Rabbi Rosenbaum: Team to me means the blessing of having thought partners, devil's advocates, seed planters, and values-driven individuals, all working toward a shared vision.

Rich Dinetz: Teamwork means that we're in it together. Being part of a team is a special bond between you and your teammates. It means that we make decisions together and that we all work together to achieve a common goal, whether it's in decision-making processes, playing a game, or deciding what pizza toppings you want to order. Teamwork makes the dream work!

Lacy LeBlanc: To me, true teamwork means that you always have a built-in support system. When you're having a bad day, it's your team who will bolster you and support you and help you get through it. And in return, you'll do the same for them. Having a strong core provides a stable foundation for us to continue Adas's commitment to excellence.

We are all so excited for the year ahead and look forward to hearing about all of your educational goals and sharing our vision with you. Please be in touch with any (or all!) of us as we begin the year.

Shanah Tovah
The Education Team ○

Madrichim Program Update



Madrichim is a teen leadership program for students in 8th through 12th grade. *Madrichim* hold a number of different leadership roles in our religious school, from assisting

teachers in classrooms to helping in the education office. Students can also assist with High Holy Day children's programming. *Madrichim* can choose to hold this position for service learning hours or for pay. If you would like to get paid, you must be at least 14 years old and obtain a DC work permit. If you prefer service learning hours, please read and understand your secular school's service learning requirements and guidelines. Apply online at www.adasisrael.org/education.

Youth@AI

Youth@AI is a fun, friendly, energetic program that allows young people to connect and celebrate their Jewish spirit. We have youth groups and activities for four different age ranges; K-2



(*Chaverim*), 3-5 (*Machar*), 6-8 (*Kadima*), and 9-12 (*USY*). We hope to see you all at these upcoming, fun events throughout the year! Bring all your friends; you won't want to miss out! Register online at www.adasisrael.org/education.

Parsha HaShavua: Chumash, Meforshim, & Midrash



Weekly Torah Study for Students on Shabbat, Saturday afternoons, 12:30-1:30 pm, Biran Beit Midrash

We are excited to announce a new learning opportunity for our students on *Shabbat*! Join us in the Biran Beit Midrash to learn *Parsha HaShavua*, the weekly Torah portion, with commentary and *midrash*. Register online at www.adasisrael.org/education. ○

Community-Wide Sukkah Building and Decorating Sunday, October 5



We have so many community events already planned to take place in the *sukkah*: the *Gan* "snack in the shack," Religious School *Shacharit* Live, New Member *Oneg*, Traditional Egalitarian *Minyan* dinner, *Kiddush* in the *Sukkah*, etc. Now we need a community to help build and decorate the famous Adas Israel *sukkah* on the Connecticut Avenue patio.

Please join us in this *mitzvah* on Sunday, October 5, at 10:00 am. All ages are welcome to help with the different projects, including building the *sukkah*, making paper chains, stringing fruit, and decorating. And since you might still be hungry after fasting the day before, breakfast will be provided.

For more information or to sign up, please contact director of membership engagement Marcy Spiro, 202-362-4433, ext. 113, or marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org.



Tikkun Olam

Social Action Opportunities at Adas Israel

We are a long-standing pillar of Jewish Washington, and continue to lead through innovation, and in advocating justice and performing charity. Our leadership inspires us to uphold justice through Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World) and through Gemilut Hasadim (Acts of Lovingkindness) to those in need. Our arms are open in kindness and righteousness to the wider Jewish community, to the greater Washington community, and beyond.

—From the Adas Israel Vision Statement

All of us at Adas Israel have reason to be proud of our dedication to social action. We have a commitment to our community partners, managing projects focused primarily on the needs of the poor, the nearly 6,500 homeless, and the disabled in our community. Adas members have taken leadership roles in organizing that commitment over the years and, in some cases, working to create community institutions (Anne Frank House, Yachad) or synagogue institutions (Inclusion Task Force) that now thrive on their own.

We welcome everyone to examine the many efforts underway and volunteer as best you can. Feel free to contact Rabbi Feinberg at the synagogue, Social Action Council Chair Joel Fishman, or any of the activity coordinators listed below.

What we do . . .

N Street Village: Thirty years after Elaine Kremens instituted the weekly volunteer program for Adas Israel members to staff the Luther Place (part of N Street Village) nightly shelter for homeless women, we are still prominent in N Street Village programs. Laura Epstein now organizes 10 volunteers or so to contribute a monthly meal for 30 women at the N Street Village shelter. Volunteers participate once in a while or every month. They contribute something simple like 30 apples or an entrée for 10. We also prepare Thanksgiving dinner for the Luther Place women.



On Christmas Day each year, Ruth Kleinrock organizes 100 or more Adas Israel volunteers to help prepare and serve a festive meal to N Street Village patrons. An Adas Israel pickup chorus, led

last year by Cantor Brown, helped make their important day special. By our presence, we make it easier for N Street Village staff to enjoy their holiday as well.

Monthly Meals for Luther Place:

Laura Epstein (Laura_Epstein@hotmail.com)

Christmas at N Street Village:

Ruth Kleinrock (ruthkleinrock@gmail.com)

Ezra Pantry: Throughout the year Adas Israel collects nonperishable food for distribution to SOME, INC. (So Others Might Eat), a nonprofit, interfaith organization. Special collections take place *Erev Yom Kippur* (see the separate item in this month's Chronicle) and in the weeks prior to Passover as we make sure our *chametz* is put to good use. In late fall, Ezra Pantry features a winter coat drive. During the several readings of the *Megillah* on *Erev Purim*, we also sell boxes of macaroni and cheese—i.e., “Edible Groggers,” which buyers return at the end of each service. For each day of the counting of the *Omer*, the Social Action Council challenges everyone at Adas to donate an item of food to the Ezra Pantry.

Ezra Pantry Coordinator:

Judith Krones (Judith.krones@gmail.com)

Liaison with SOME, Inc.:

Nechama Masliansky (nmasliansky@some.org)

Sukkot In Spring and Other Yachad

Projects: Several times each year Adas Israel assembles teams to renovate homes of area residents who are unable to tackle needed repairs on their own. Volunteers paint; do yard work; fix windows, leaking roofs, and rotting floors; and tend to inadequate bathrooms and faulty electrical systems. *Sukkot* in Spring at Adas Israel takes place on May 10 in 2015. Projects also take place on Veterans Day and on the MLK weekend annual National Day of Service.



Sukkot in Spring: Ed Kopf (edkopf@bmcassociates.com)

Anne Frank House: Anne Frank House was established in 1987 as an Adas Israel community service project. Today AFH is an independent nonprofit with its own Board of Directors, providing permanent housing to 11 individuals in fully furnished units owned or rented by AFH. Volunteer liaisons monitor our residents to help keep them fully functioning and often purchase groceries and other necessities that they deliver when visiting. Sue Ducat is the current AFH liaison with Adas Israel.

Anne Frank House activities are financed by individual donations and grants, with in-kind support from Adas Israel. Every year in November, the AFH miniwalk helps raise needed funds. We invite everyone to sign up to walk, or to sponsor a walker, to and from Rock Creek Park. This year, on November 9, the miniwalk will honor Bonnie Lewin (z”l), who was a hard-working AFH Board member for many years. Stay tuned for confirmation and more details.



Anne Frank House Adas Israel Liaison:

Sue Ducat (stansue@verizon.net)

Save Darfur: Every third Sunday of the month, Adas Israel volunteers gather at the Embassy of Sudan to raise awareness to the dire situation in Darfur. Each year during the *Hanukkah*

season, Adas Israel sponsors "Light the Fires for Darfur" to encourage purchase of solar cooker kits for Darfuri refugees.

Monthly Darfur Vigils: Laura Cutler (Mbcutler@aol.com)

Light the Fires for Darfur: Judy Herr (jorgsh2@gmail.com)

Free Alan Gross: On the third Monday of every month, Adas Israel volunteers gather in front of the Cuban Interests Section in a vigil to free Alan Gross.

Free Alan Gross: Ellen Winter (eswinter7@gmail.com)

Inclusion Task Force: The Inclusion Task Force has its origins in the 2011 Martin Luther King Jr. weekend, which focused on the rights of the disabled and featured Judy Heumann, Adas member and special advisor for international disability rights at the U.S. Department of State. Encouraged by the response to the weekend, Judy and Debby Joseph formed the Inclusion Task Force to encourage a welcoming environment that ensures that all barriers to full participation in the Adas Israel community are removed. The task force works with the religious school to facilitate inclusion of children with special needs, reaches out to families that might need additional support, and addresses those whose disabilities may not be visible but are nonetheless real.

Co-Chair: Debby Joseph (deborahmfisher@gmail.com)

Co-Chair: Judy Heumann (HeumannJE@state.gov)

Advocacy: This new initiative works to strengthen existing social action activities through advocacy for the poor and homeless in the District. Thanks in part to Adas members weighing in, the DC City Council last year passed a budget that includes almost everything we wanted to prevent homelessness and help the lowest-income residents of our city.

Nechama Masliansky (nmasliansky@some.org)

Ed Kopf (ejkopf@bmcassociates.com)

Adina Mendelson (inmcareers@themendelsons.net)

Joel Fischman (fischman@comcast.net)

Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ:

Adas Israel and Peoples Church celebrated the 10th anniversary of our partnership during the 2014 MLK weekend with a rousing performance by The Afro-Semitic Experience. We will build on our joint accomplishments as we begin our second decade of joint service to our community, service that includes the Veterans Day Yachad project, the monthly Save Darfur vigils, and the annual Thanksgiving and Christmas food drives.



Peoples Church Liaison:

Joel Fischman (fischman@comcast.net)

The Social Action Council welcomes all who want to contribute their time and talent, no matter how much or how little. Stay tuned for new and expanded opportunities. Finally, keep the Social Action Fund in mind as you are commemorating *yahrzeits* or celebrating *s'machot*.

Dates to Note:

Sunday, Nov. 9: Help the Homeless Walk

Tuesday, Nov. 11: Veterans Day Yachad Project (with Peoples)

Wednesday, November 19: Thanksgiving Food Drive (at Peoples)

Saturday, December 6: Human Rights and *Shem Tov Shabbat*

Thursday, December 18: Christmas Food Drive (at Peoples)

Thursday, December 25: Christmas at N Street Village

January 16-19: MLK Weekend

Saturday, February 21: Inclusion Shabbat

Wednesday, March 23: Erev Purim—Celebrate with edible groggers

April 24–June 12: Omer Challenge

Sunday, May 10: Sukkot in Spring

Update from the Hesed Committee

Committed to Creating a Caring, Comforting Community


Hesed Committee's point-to-point transportation for members

The Hesed Committee is creating a new program to help Adas Israel members who, because of age, disability, or temporary circumstances, need transportation assistance to attend synagogue services or events or to travel to and from medical appointments. The committee plans to inaugurate the program December 1.

If you're interested in being a driver, please contact Art Hessel, Arthur.hessel@yahoo.com, as soon as possible and no later than Friday, September 26.

Rosh Hashanah bag project, Sunday, September 21

L'shanah Tovah! Help the Hesed Committee spread the sweetness of the New Year, 5775! For the past four years the committee has organized assembly and delivery of *Rosh Hashanah* bags with a lot of help from the Adas community, and we hope you'll help us again this year.

The *Rosh Hashanah* bag assembly and delivery will take place on **Sunday, September 21**. Bag assembly will begin at 11 am and pick-up will be at noon. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Harriet Isack (happyisack@gmail.com) or Ron Lapping (rlsports@aol.com). 

Adas Israel: An Accessible & Welcoming Community

An Update from the Inclusion Task Force

Adas Israel Congregation's Board of Directors created the Inclusion Task Force in 2011. Comprised of members of the congregation, the task force is a resource to identify and remove both physical and attitudinal barriers that limit the participation of people who have various types of disabilities. The task force supports Adas Israel's efforts to provide a welcoming environment to all members of the community and, therefore, endeavors to ensure that this includes disabled people, regardless of their type of disability.

The task force has been reviewing accessibility features of the Vision of Renewal renovation as well as working to ensure the availability of working audio loops, obtaining large-print prayer books, and promoting a review of the synagogue's educational programs so that children and youth with disabilities will be able to participate and benefit. Since its inception, the task force has organized activities each February in recognition of Jewish Disability Awareness Month. Rabbi Feinberg worked with the task force to create a series of activities that occurred throughout the month, including reading disability-themed children's books to Gan children and a presentation and discussion of the history of the American Disability Rights Movement with Ma'alot students.

This past year a *Shabbat* was dedicated to the congregation's inclusion of disabled people. Ginny Thornburgh, director of the interfaith initiative at the American Association of People

with Disabilities, spoke about the importance of religious communities going beyond making their buildings accessible. She challenged the Adas community to identify the barriers that prevent disabled people and their families from benefitting fully from what religious life can provide. This was followed by a discussion led by a panel of congregants with a variety of disabilities, including a parent of a disabled child, a blind woman, a person who has become hard of hearing as she has become older, and a person with a speech disability. They shared their experiences in the Jewish community and offered suggestions for what more is needed to remove barriers.

Rabbi Steinlauf and the synagogue's leadership are helping us spread our wings to create meaningful opportunities to enrich our lives as Jews. Creativity abounds, pushing us in new directions while we continue to focus on our traditions. For too long, disabled people have been on the margins of our community. Some have had difficulty entering and feeling valued. Others, who acquired disabilities over the course of their lives, have felt a loss in the value they should and/or may have had in the past.

If you're interested in joining our efforts to create a more inclusive Adas Israel by participating in the Inclusion Task Force, please contact David Polonsky in the synagogue office, 202-362-4433. ○

Anne Frank House Update



Anne Frank House has much to be grateful for this year. Our 11 residents are all doing well, and, thanks in part to your support, we continue to have the resources to take care of them. As is the case with most of our apartments, the furniture and furnishings come largely from items donated by members of this congregation.

We hope to bring on a new resident in the year ahead and will keep you updated about that.

Also watch this space or the Adas website for details about how to register for this year's mini-walk, which will take place on Sunday, November 9. This year's walk will honor Bonnie Lewin (z"l), a devoted Anne Frank House board member for many years. If you would like to become one of the walk's corporate sponsors, let us know. Your corporate logo will be proudly displayed on the walk T-shirts.

If you have questions about Anne Frank House, or want to get more involved in our work, please contact Sue Ducat, stansue@verizon.net.

To learn more about Anne Frank House, or to make an online contribution, visit our website, <http://www.theannefrankhouse.org/> or send your check to Anne Frank House, Inc., c/o Adas Israel Congregation, 2850 Quebec Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008.

From Anne Frank House to the entire Adas Israel family, best wishes for a sweet and healthy new year. ○

Books, Ideas, & More

Novels as Weapons: Dr. Zhivago and the CIA

by Robin Jacobson, Library & Literary Arts Director



In the midst of the Cold War, the celebrated Soviet Jewish poet Boris Pasternak proudly completed his first and only novel—an epic tale of the life and loves of a doctor-poet who becomes disillusioned with the Soviet state. Disturbed by the book's unpatriotic tone, the Soviet literary establishment refused to publish it. So Pasternak entrusted his precious manuscript to an Italian literary agent, saying, "This is *Dr. Zhivago*. May it make its way around the world."

The European publication of *Doctor Zhivago* in 1957 brought Pasternak acclaim, but also persecution. As recounted in a fascinating new book, *The Zhivago Affair: The Kremlin, the CIA, and the Battle Over a Forbidden Book*, by Peter Finn and Petra Couvée, *Doctor Zhivago* became an international bestseller, and in 1958 Pasternak won the Nobel Prize for Literature. By contrast, Soviet leaders banned Pasternak's "anti-Soviet" book and forced him to turn down the prize. The Union of Soviet Writers expelled him, the KGB harassed him, and thugs threw stones at his house, shouting anti-Semitic slurs.

Until now, few knew how the CIA took advantage of the uproar over *Doctor Zhivago* to try to turn Soviet citizens against their government. Analyzing newly declassified CIA documents, Finn (national security editor for the *Washington Post*) and Couvée uncovered an ambitious CIA operation to disseminate the banned novel secretly behind the Iron Curtain.

Pasternak

Born in Moscow in 1890, Pasternak belonged to a prominent artistic Jewish family. His father was an impressionist painter, and his mother, a concert pianist. The family was not religious, and Pasternak felt more drawn to the Russian Orthodox Church than to Judaism.

Pasternak was a beloved Soviet poet; his poetry readings

filled concert halls. Nonetheless, for long periods the Soviet establishment would not publish his poetry, unsure of Pasternak's ideological commitment. Consequently, he primarily earned a living as a translator, becoming a premier Russian interpreter of Shakespeare's plays.

The CIA

During the Cold War, the CIA fought a relentless war of ideas with the Kremlin. Hoping to stir up dissent within populations under Soviet control, the CIA covertly flooded the Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc countries with millions of banned Russian-language and Western books. *Doctor Zhivago* became a star title in the secret book program.

One CIA memo discovered by Finn and Couvée enthusiastically declared that *Doctor Zhivago* "has great propaganda value . . . we have the opportunity to make Soviet citizens wonder what is wrong with their government, when a fine literary work by the man acknowledged to be the greatest living Russian writer is not even available in his own country in his own language for his own people to read."

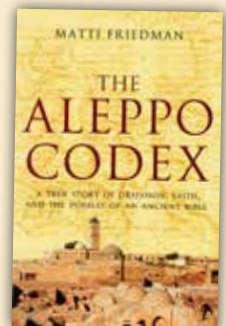
The CIA selected the 1958 World's Fair in Brussels, where 16,000 Soviet visitors were expected, as an ideal first venue to distribute Russian-language copies of *Doctor Zhivago* covertly. To hide U.S. involvement, the CIA persuaded the Vatican Pavilion to pass copies discreetly to Russian-speaking visitors. Before long, say Finn and Couvée, the distinctive blue book covers were "littering the fairgrounds," ripped off by recipients who stuffed the pages in their pockets to avoid detection. The CIA took note and later published a miniature paperback edition of *Doctor Zhivago* that was easier to conceal.

Although the Cold War was a period of immense danger, Finn and Couvée's gripping tale of politics and espionage makes one feel almost nostalgic for a time when books were deployed as weapons, and even opposing governments shared a common belief in the power of literature. ○

Next Book Chat Sunday, September 14, 10:30 am

Join us to discuss *The Aleppo Codex: A True Story of Obsession, Faith, and the Pursuit of an Ancient Bible* by Matti Friedman.

Questions? Contact Robin Jacobson,
librarian@adasisrael.org



Lifelong Learning



Get Ready for the High Holy Days with the Jewish Study Center!

Classes begin Wednesday, September 10, at 7:00 pm and 8:15 pm

To register, visit www.jewishstudycenter.org.

The Wisdom of Jewish Traditions: A Psychological Perspective on Atonement and Forgiveness

7:00–8:15 pm

Instructor: Deborah Fisher, Psy.D, is an organizational management consultant, executive coach and licensed psychologist in Maryland as well as a vice president of Adas Israel

Cost: Adas/JSC members \$15, non-members \$25

Forgive Me: Modern Poetry of Atonement

8:15–9:30 pm

From contemporary liturgy to William Carlos Williams and Yehuda Amichai

Instructor: Amy E. Schwartz is president of the Jewish Study Center

Cost: Adas/JSC members \$15, non-members \$25

Ask the Rabbis: Do Jews Have A Different Sense of Sin From Other People?

7:00–8:15 pm

A panel discussion co-sponsored by *Moment* Magazine.

Compare local rabbis' perspectives from many angles!

Cost: Adas/JSC members \$15, non-members \$25.

New Wines for the New Year! A kosher wine tasting and social hour with study and refreshments

7:00–9:00 pm

Entertaining for *Rosh Hashanah*? Turning over a new leaf socially? Learn something new about red, white, and sparkling kosher wines, with taste tests and treats.

Instructor: Steven Bellman, proprietor of Paul's Wine & Spirits, has decades of experience with kosher wine. Participants get a 15% discount coupon at Paul's Wine & Spirits.

Pre-registration required by Sept. 7 to ensure supplies.

Cost: Adas/JSC members \$18, non-members \$25

The Annual Community CPR Program with the Men's Club

Tuesday, September 9, 6:15 pm



All High Holy Day and *Shabbat* Ushers/*Kesher Ishi* Greeters should attend this year's training, and we encourage new participants as well! Beginning with a light supper (free of charge), during which we will thank and brief our High Holy Day ushers on important security, emergency and procedure information. To register, contact Steven Miller, at 703-981-1709 or smiller173@aol.com.

Thank You, Summer Speakers!

Todah rabah to our summer *Shabbat* morning speakers! As always, they challenged us, enlightened us, and added to the meaning of our *Shabbat* worship. Our sincere thanks to, Judith Heumann, Rabbi Gilah Langner, Naomi Malka, Matt Myers, Al Munzer, Rob Satloff, Amy Schwartz, and Rabbi Herbert Schwartz.

Look forward to more stimulating conversations throughout the upcoming year through our *MakomDC* learning curriculum in the Biran *Beit Midrash* (House of Conversation). Visit www.adasisrael.org/makomdc to learn more.

Social and Spiritual Experiences for Members 55+ Join the HAZAK Community

HAZAK members joined for a lovely kosher wine-tasting event at neighborhood wine store Weygandt Wines on Sunday, July 13. The tasting



included five kosher wines

(Goose Bay Sauvignon Blanc Marlborough, 2012; Binyamina Chardonnay Reserve Galilee, 2011; Segals Fusion, 2012; Baron Herzog Cabernet Sauvignon Special Reserve Alexander Valley; and Bartenura Moscato Kosher Provincia di Pavia (IGT 2013) and two kosher beers (H'Brew Genesis Dry-Hopped Ale and He'Brew Bittersweet Lenny's R.I.P.A.).

Not only did we sample each of the wines, but Jessica (our wine hostess) talked to us about what makes wine kosher and what *mevushal* is. After sampling, eating, and schmoozing, many took advantage of the 10% discount and bought their favorites to bring home with them.

Be on the lookout for more HAZAK events, including get-togethers before Adas lifelong learning events, film screenings in partnership with the DCJCC Washington Jewish Film Festival, HAZAK *Shabbat* dinners, and volunteer projects.

Contributions

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

The Adas Fund

In Honor Of: Anniversary *b'nai mitzvah* service & **Jack Herman's** 90th birthday by Jack & Flo Herman.

In Memory Of: **Arthur J. Kramer** by Helen Kramer. **Allen Wolpe** by Annette Wolpe.

Anne Frank House Fund

In Memory Of: **Bonnie Lewin** by Arthur Lerner & Linda Dreeben.

Beit Midrash/Makom DC

In Memory Of: **Laura Both** by Mark & Deborah Joseph.

Benjamin James Cecil Special Education Fund

In Memory Of: **Benjamin E. Friedman** by Judith Friedman.

Bereavement Fund

In Honor Of: **Rabbi Steinlauf** by Elliot Wolff

In Memory Of: **Sandy Steinlauf** by Eva Rehfeld, Arnold Danziger. **Bonnie Lewin** by David & Toni Bickart.

B'Yahad Special Needs Fund

In Honor Of: **Janet Harari, Marsha Pinson** by Keith & Tamar Levenberg.

Cantor Brown Discretionary Fund

In Honor Of: Birth of **Nathaniel Emit Brown** by Arthur & Harriet Isack. **Cantor Brown** by Harvey & Bette Levin.

With Great Appreciation For: **Cantor Brown** by Rita Segerman.

Capital Fund Contributions

By: Noel & Anita Epstein.

In Honor Of: **David Polonsky's** appointment as executive director of Adas Israel by Yaacov & Herlene Nagler.

For The Speedy Recovery Of: **Ross Eisenman** by Jane Baldinger.

In Memory Of: **Eleanor Goldberg** by Ross Eisenman & Shelley Tomkin. **Murry Mendelson** by Herlene Nagler.

Celia & Louis Grossberg Cantorial Fund

In Memory Of: **Sandy Steinlauf** by Jeffrey Knishkowsky & Patti Lieberman.

Charles Pilzer Computer Center

In Memory Of: **Charles J. Pilzer, Abraham "AJ" Fogel** by Geraldine Pilzer.

Charlotte & Hubert Schlosberg High Holy Day Machzor Fund

In Memory Of: **Joseph Kaufman** by Charlotte Schlosberg.

Congregational Kiddush Fund

In Honor Of: **Sammy Lerner** becoming a *bar mitzvah* by Mark & Inna Lerner. **Cadence Thakur** becoming a *bat mitzvah* by Manavendra & Gail Thakur.

Daily Minyan Fund

In Honor Of: Marriage of **Sharon Yecies & George Desh** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

With Thanks For: **Adas Israel minyan** by Linda Silverman.

In Honor Of: **Rabbi Feinberg, Harry Marks, Mas Meejuru, Norman Shore, Ron Lapping**, all by Robin Jacobson.

In Memory Of: **Jonah Schiffres** by Manuel

Schiffres. **Claire (Betsy) Kay** by Samuel Frumkin & Susan Kay. **Mae Ugelow** by Richard Ugelow.

Dan Kaufman Children's Program Fund

In Memory Of: **Dr. Sidney Z. Kaufman & Lea Hilowitz** by Minna Kaufman.

Daryl Reich Rubenstein Staff Development Fund

In Memory Of: **Anne Reich** by Lee Rubenstein.

Doris Herman Gan Teacher Recognition Fund

In Honor Of: Marriage of **Alana Presslaff & Zachary Lerner** by Arthur Lerner & Linda Dreeben.

For The Speedy Recovery Of: **Carol Ansell** by Ava, Neal, Elissa & Jay Gross.

Dorothy & David Linowes Program Fund

In Memory Of: **Jack Wolf** by Dorothy Linowes.

Dr. William & Vivienne Stark Wedding & Anniversa

In Honor Of: **Bill Stark's** special birthday by Dr. William & Vivienne Stark.

Esther Saks Abelman Yiddish Cultural Fund

In Memory Of: **Esther Saks Abelman** by Diane Abelman Wattenberg.

Ethel & Nat Popick Chronicle Fund

In Memory Of: **William Cooper** by Dorothy Block. **Bertram Abramson** by David & Harriet Bubes. **Alvin Bernstein** by David & Harriet Bubes, Dorothy Block.

Executive Director Discretionary Fund

In Honor Of: **David Polonsky** becoming Adas Israel's new executive director by Sheri Brown, Suzanne Davidson, Larry & Jean Bernard, Steve Rabinowitz & Laurie Moskowitz, Jane Baldinger.

Ezra Pantry

In Honor Of: Marriage of **Johanna Chanin & Randy Levitt** by Stuart & Jamie Butler.

In Memory Of: **Alvin Bernstein** by Allan & Bobbie Fried.

Frances & Leonard Burka Social Action Endowment

In Memory Of: **Harry Burka** by Leonard & Frances Burka.

Frances Friend Fund

In Memory Of: **Frances Friend** by Ronald Friend.

Fund for the Future

In Honor Of: **Leah Chanin** receiving the 2014 *Yad Hakavod* award by Manny Schiffres & Rae Grad.

In Memory Of: **Mayor Oberstein** by Roger & Renée Fendrich.

Garden of the Righteous

In Memory Of: **Harvey Bodansky, Harriet Steingold** by Judy Strauch.

Harry & Judie Linowes Youth Endowment Fund

In Honor Of: **Elinor Tattar** by Harry & Judie Linowes.

In Memory Of: **Rose Linowitz** by Harry Linowes.

Frayda Munves, Sandy Steinlauf by Harry & Judie Linowes. **Irving Kosan** by Elyse Linowes.

Havurah Kiddush Fund

By: J. Michael & Joyce Stern.

In Honor Of: **Rabbi Kassel Abelson's** 90th birthday by Arnie & Mary Hammer. **Michael Goldman's** special birthday, **Morris Klein** on his special birthday, **Rachel Finston's** high school graduation, all by J. Michael & Joyce Stern. **Lisah Sandler Bernstein's Haftorah** reading by Jerry & Kathy Sandler. Our 49th anniversary by Arnie & Mary Hammer. Our 56th anniversary by Sandy & Adina Mendelson. *With Thanks To:* **Havurah** for friendship & support by Matt & Susan Finston.

High Holy Day Memorial Book

In Memory Of: **Rose Lieberman** by Irv & Judy Lieberman.

Ida Mendelson Memorial Prayer Book Fund

In Honor Of: **Shirley Cohen's bat mitzvah** anniversary *aliyah* by Shirley Cohen.

In Memory Of: **Barbara Slavin** by Andrea Lenkin & family. **Beatrice Abramson** by Dr. Edward Abramson. **Goldie Bobb** by Stanley & Sandy Bobb. **Beatrice Gray Jacobs** by Lynn Jacobs.

Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington

In Honor Of: Birth of **Mae Ayelet Gedan** by Joel & Cynthia Rosenberg.

In Memory Of: **Sandy Steinlauf** by Marc Margolius, Joel & Cynthia Rosenberg.

Julius & Anna Wolpe Auditorium Fund

In Memory Of: **Jeffrey Wolpe** by Donald Wolpe.

Kullen Family Fund

In Memory Of: **Dora & Dave Margolis, Rose & Joseph Robinowitz**, all by Dr. Shirley Kullen.

Leah Chanin Day School Fund

In Honor Of: **Leah Chanin** receiving the 2014 *Yad Hakavod* award by Nancy, Daniel, & Jory Weiss, Jeffrey Knishkowsky & Patti Lieberman, David & Jessica Nemeth, Glenn & Cindy Easton, Sheri Brown, Ricki Gerger.

Lillian & Daniel Ezrin Fund for Ritual Objects

In Honor Of: **David Polonsky's** appointment as Executive Director of Adas Israel by Miriam Feldman, Joel & Rhoda Ganz. **Leah Chanin** receiving the 2014 *Yad Hakavod* award by Miriam Feldman, Joel & Rhoda Ganz.

Estelle Jacobs's 90th birthday by Joel & Rhoda Ganz. *In Memory Of:* **Rose Seigle** by Paula Goldman.

Marilyn & Stefan Tucker Program Endowment Fund

In Memory Of: **Sandy Steinlauf** by Stef & Marilyn Tucker.

Martha & Joseph Mendelson Adult Education Fund

In Memory Of: **David Mendelson & Florence Grusky, Harvey Bodansky, David Mendelson**, all by Sandy & Adina Mendelson.

Masorti Fund

In Memory Of: **Barbara Pavony** by Anat Bar-Cohen.

Maxine & Gerald Freedman Endowment Fund

In Memory Of: **Marvin Block** by Maxine Freedman.

Melvin Gelman Religious School Fund

In Memory Of: **Melvin Gelman** by Elaine Miller.

Men's Club Amuday Torah Fund

In Memory Of: **Frank Berlin & Janet Green** by Mark & Leslie Berlin.

Mikveh Capital Campaign

In Honor Of: **Leah Chanin** receiving the 2014 *Yad Hakavod* award by Yaacov & Herlene Nagler, Stuart & Jamie Butler. **Rita Nicholls & Ron Owens** by Suzanne Davidson.

Mildred & Jess Fisher Nursery School Fund

By: Rabbi Randall & Cantor Arianne Brown.
In Honor Of: Birth of **Ezra Kasagod-Staub, Maya Kotelanski** becoming a *bat mitzvah* by Sheri Brown.

In Memory Of: **Bessie Krauser** by Florence Meyer. **Ira Meyer** by Laurence Meyer. **Meyer Siegel** by Michelle Leavy Grayson.

Minnie & Abraham S. Kay Israel Scholarship Fund

In Memory Of: **Abraham S. Kay** by Sylvia Greenberg.

Morton & Norma Lee Funger Israel Program Fund

In Memory Of: **William Moses Funger, W. Scott Funger, Samuel P. Cohen, Yetta K. Cohen, Rebecca Funger**, all by Morton & Norma Lee Funger.

Offerings Fund

By: Michael Bayroff

In Honor Of: **Lindsay Yitzchak's** *Netivot* service by Pam Ehrenberg. **Jack Herman's** second *bar mitzvah* by Irene Zita Pasternak.

In Memory Of: **William Cohen** by Richard S. Cohen. **David Isidor Estrin** by Melvyn Estrin. **Sybil Parade** by Jeryl Parade. **Jacob & Grace Esocoff, Mel Estrin** by Abbe Esocoff Zimmerman. **Adele Kupfer** by Marcia Kupfer. **Alvin Bernstein** by Carole Lerner. **Selma Mostow** by Marvin Mostow. **Richard Buck & Paul Buck** by Dr. David Buck. **Bonnie Lewin** by Sam Bluzenstein. **Esther Nussdorf** by Lenny & Beth Sloan. **Murry Mendelson** by Ira Mendelson.

Rabbi Avis Miller Lifelong Learning Fund

In Honor Of: Our anniversary by David Margolies & Susan Tersoff.

In Memory Of: **David Surosky** by Shelley Kossak.

Rabbi Feinberg Discretionary Fund

By: Linda & Drew Rosen.

In Honor Of: **Morris Klein's** 75th birthday by Mileve Phillips & Miriam Rosenthal. **Julie Weisman** by Betsy Strauss.

With Thanks For: **Boker Ohr class** by Warren Clark.

With Thanks To: **Rabbi Feinberg** by Manuel Schiffres, Michael Friedman, Ben & Tosha Berman.

In Memory Of: **Rebecca Lipkin** by Chris Sautter & Harriet Lipkin. **Dorothy A. Slawsky** by Zalma Slawsky.

Rabbi Holtzblatt Discretionary Fund

With Thanks To: **Rabbi Holtzblatt** by Andrew & Amy Herman

Rabbi Jeffrey A. Wohlberg Masorti Fund

In Memory Of: **Jack Pavony** by Anat Bar-Cohen

In Memory Of: **Julius Y. Schwartz** by Howard & Susan Liberman

Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz History Fund

In Memory Of: **Florence Fibus** by Carole Lerner

Rabbi Steinlauf Discretionary Fund

In Honor Of: **Rabbi Steinlauf** by Craig Yokum,

Steven & Ruth Kleinrock.

With Thanks To: **Rabbi Steinlauf** by Livia & Stephen Wein, Raquel Frenk & Frida Skolkin, Adam & Ericka Berg.

In Memory Of: **Sandy Steinlauf** by Sandy & Bev Cohen, Dr. William & Vivienne Stark, Jeryl Parade, David & Jessica Nemeth, Keith & Tamar Levenberg, Mileve Phillips & Miriam Rosenthal, Andrew & Amy Herman, Manny Schiffres & Rae Grad, Mark & Inna Lerner, Bern & Rita Segerman, Adrian & Annette Morchower, J. Michael & Joyce Stern, Larry & Melanie Nussdorf, Jeff Goodell & Beth Kanter, Arthur & Harriet Isack, Richard & Carol Margolis, Vicki Perper, David & Toni Bickart, Stuart & Jamie Butler, Ava, Neal, Elissa & Jay Gross, Steven & Ruth Kleinrock, Michael & Laura Cutler, Jeffrey Jacobovitz & Leah Hadad Sandra Armstrong, Sydell Sandy. **Minnie Isack** by Arthur Isack.

Rose R. Freudberg Sisterhood Memorial Library Fund

In Honor Of: **Leah Chanin** receiving the 2014 *Yad Hakavod* award by Mark & Deborah Joseph, Arthur & Harriet Isack. **Adas Israel** by Lynn Jacobs, Joel & Rhoda Ganz by Ava, Neal, Elissa & Jay Gross.

In Memory Of: **Hilda Aks** by Vicki Perper.

Sandy Steinlauf by Sandra Zuckerman, Amb. Joseph & Mrs. Alma Gildenhorn. **Anna Travers Keimowitz** by Bob & Hazel Keimowitz.

George Jolson by Dr. Heidi Jolson. **Meyer Hessel** by Arthur Hessel. **Paul Weingarten** by David Weingarten. **Sol Tepper** by Edie Hessel.

Esther Nussdorf by Sandra Zuckerman, Elinor Tattar, Irv & Grace Lebow. **Alvin Bernstein** by Adrian & Annette Morchower. **Ellen Schumer** by Shirley Cohen. **Yetta Tersoff** by David Margolies & Susan Tersoff. **Irving H. Yaverbaum** by Jeri Greenberg. **Lillian Fox** by Marian Fox. **Varda Panitz** by Fradel Kramer.

Rothstein Family Israel College Scholarship Fund

In Memory Of: **Dr. Norman Schlesinger** by Miriam Schlesinger.

Ryna & Melvin Cohen Senior Rabbi Program Fund

In Memory Of: **Sandy Steinlauf** by Mark & Deborah Joseph.

Sadie & Herman Hanfling Memorial Fund

In Memory Of: **Martin Hanfling** by Dr. Dan Hanfling.

Samuel & Jeanette Weiss Special Needs Fund

In Honor Of: Marriage of **Asaf Nagler & Hana Hausenerova** by Mark & Deborah Joseph.

Samuel & Sadie Lebowitz Israel Scholarship Fund

In Memory Of: **Alvin Bernstein** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

Sandra & Clement Alpert Fund for Family Education

In Memory Of: **Rose L. Madden & Miriam Madden** by Alan & Dale Sorcher. **Miriam Madden** by Sandra Alpert. **Mollie Epstein** by

Glenn & Cindy Easton.

Sarah & William Pittleman Special Needs Fund

In Memory Of: **Harvey Bodansky** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

Shabbat Sing

In Memory Of: **Toby Cutler** by Nava & Ronald Dweck, Linda & Ronald Rosen, Susan Zuckerman, Lorraine & Howard Tischler, Davina & Isadore Kratka, Benjamin Landy, Madeline Weinstock, Eric & Sarah Rosand, Rita K. Weintraub, Burt Albert, Stewart & Shelley Remer, Janet Susan & Louis Barnett, the Salons & Same Boat Groups, Rachel Cristol, Olivia Ralston, Marian Sue & Joel Sherman Amir Cohen.

Shelley Remer Gan HaYeled Enrichment Fund

In Honor Of: **Gan teachers & administrators** by Pam Ehrenberg.

In Memory Of: **Beverly Pressman** by Aliza Pressman.

Siegel-Kalmekoff Family Adult Education Fund

In Honor Of: **Judah Engel & Rebecca Weiss** becoming *b'nai mitzvah* by Margie Siegel

In Memory Of: **Sandy Steinlauf** by Margie Siegel. **Esther Soled Siegel** by David & Toni Bickart.

Shirley Abrams Memorial Fund

In Honor Of: **Estelle Jacobs's** 90th birthday by Steven & Ruth Kleinrock.

Social Action Fund

In Recognition Of: **Lesley Brinton** receiving the MSA Young Professional award by Jane Baldinger.

In Memory Of: **Morton F. Bickart** by David Bickart.

Sophie Silfen Shalom Tinok Fund

In Memory Of: **Esther Nussdorf** by Bruce Ray & April Rubin.

Staff Gift Fund

In Honor Of: Engagement of **Rita Nicholls & Ron Owens** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

Susan Linowes Allen Memorial Music Fund

In Memory Of: **Susan Linowes Allen** by Richard Linowes.

Sylvia & Harold Greenberg Endowment Fund

In Memory Of: **Sandy Steinlauf** by Sylvia Greenberg.

Sylvia B. Nelson Memorial Endowment Fund

In Memory Of: **Lee Goodglick** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

Traditional Minyan Kiddush Fund

By: Rabbi Randall & Cantor Arianne Brown.

In Honor Of: **Sandy Siegel, B'nai mitzvah** of **Seth Kahler Judah Engel Ethan Chanin**,

all by Judith Hellerstein. **Rebecca Weiss** becoming a *bat mitzvah* by Judith Hellerstein, Bill Levenson, Sandy & Adina Mendelson, Jeff Goodell & Beth Kanter. **Leah Chanin** receiving the 2104 *Yad Hakavod* award by Bill Levenson. **Jessica & David Nemeth's** anniversary by Rabbi Randall & Cantor Arianne Brown. **Sharon Sambar & Michael Leifman's** anniversary by Rabbi Randall & Cantor Arianne Brown.

In Memory Of: **Esther Siegel** by Judith Hellerstein, Jeff Goodell & Beth Kanter. **Sandy Steinlauf** by Bill Levenson. **Barnett Gordon**

by Julia Gordon.

Tzedakah Fund

By: Eric Kushner.

In Honor Of: Life of **Sandy Steinlauf** by Eric & Taryn Rosenkranz.

David Polonsky being named executive director of Adas Israel by Arthur & Harriet Isack.

For The Speedy Recovery Of: **Susan Winberg** by Larry & Jean Bernard.

In Recognition Of: **Lesley Brinton's** MSA Young Professional award by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

In Memory Of: **Hyman Stollman** by Faye Moskowitz. **Tess Cogen** by Ed & Ruth Cogen.

Harry Eidelsberg by Gilda Snyder. **Bessie Krauser** by Stephanie Meyer. **Michael Klein** by Janet Kolodner. **Solomon Shapiro** by Steve & Susana Shapiro. **Sara Luper Wolfson** by Charles & Nancy Wolfson. **David T. Austern**

& **Walter Bell** by Marilyn Austern. **Andrew Wolf** by Sandra Schwalb. **Ray Besner** by Arthur Besner. **Anna Rosenberg** by Linda Rosenkrantz. **Jean Slavin** by Renata Kossow.

Abraham M. Goldsmith by Gail Rouchdy.

Celia Gildenhorn by Amb. Joseph Gildenhorn. **Shirley Tersoff** by David Margolies & Susan Tersoff. **Herbert Ain** by Sanford Ain. **Barney Usher** by Michael & Marion Usher. **Benjamin Olender** by Jack Olender.

Sonia Heller by Yona Goldberg.

Vision of Renewal Fund

In Honor Of: Marriage of **Johanna Chanin & Randy Levitt** by Nancy, Daniel & Jory Weiss, Terri & David Frolich.

In Memory Of: **Sandy Steinlauf** by Nancy, Daniel, & Jory Weiss, Yaacov & Herlene Nagler.

Howard Lavine by Judiith Smith. **Esther Nussdorf** by Russell & Judith Smith, Sandy & Sue Greenberg, A. James Clark, Liz & Bob Flanagan.

Yale Goldberg School Retreats Fund

In Memory Of: **Jessie Rothhouse Reilly** by Pauline Goldberg.

Yizkor/Yahrzeit Fund

In Memory Of: **Edia Tchulak** by Joseph Zilberbaum. **Ida L. Hellman** by Elinor Gruber.

Benjamin Roth by Alan Roth. **Rose Guss** by Roberta Weiss. **David Paul Sandy** by Sydel Sandy. **Irvin Cummins & Naomi Cummins** by Nancy Silverman. **Albert Ginsberg** by Harry Teicher. **Ida Mendelson** by Ira Mendelson.

Rose Lieberman by Irving Lieberman. **Molly Herson Mills** by Joe & Sonia Herson. **Fanny Gelman** by John Kossow. **Fay Dektor** by Zelda Heller. **Milton Hoffman** by Frances Hoffman. **Jacob B. Sclar** by Sidney Sclar. **Sidney Goldstein** by Marcie Goldstein. **Robert Earl Sandler** by Barbara Sandler. **Lillian Rosen Ratner** by Richard & Judy Cohen. **Narvin Emden** by Craig Emden. **Irving Bowers** by Connie Bowers.

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Irwin Greenspahn by Rachel Yavinsky. **Jessie Rothhouse Reilly** by Joan O'Connor. **Hilda Sturc** by John Sturc. **Jenny Franco** by Larry & Melanie Nussdorf. **Jeannette Zupnik, Joseph J. Zupnik** by Stanley Zupnik. **Jules Klepper** by Martin & Arlene Klepper. **Isor Gildenhorn** by Amb. Joseph Gildenhorn. **Benjamin R. Weisberg** by Ellen Malasky. **Harry Burka** by Edward Burka. **Irvine Melvin Kramer** by Lillian Kramer. **Ellen Leavy & David Rosenberg** by Charlotte Teicher. **Minnie Rosenthal, William Rosenthal & Marcus Dinsmore** by Betty Dinsmore. **Frances Wolf** by Sandra Schwalb. **Beatrice Gray Jacobs** by Alan Jacobs. **Arlyne Garten** by Fran Cohen. **Simon Heller** by Yona Goldberg. **Jack Zuckerberg** by Debbie Sann.

Youth Activities Fund

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MA TOVU CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

I can still find meaning and purpose in making a *bracha* before I eat something, that taking that moment of gratitude before a meal serves me as much as it might serve God. Together with clergy, lay leadership, and staff, we strive to create as many access points as possible towards the awe-inspiring number of offerings here at Adas. Adas should be a home for our members as much as it has been a home for Heather and me these last six years. I consider myself very fortunate to have benefited from the extraordinary spiritual wisdom of Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt. I've taken in the remarkable Torah-knowledge of Rabbi Charles Feinberg. I've sat astounded by the musical inspiration of our world-class Hazzan, Cantor Arianne Brown. Everyone should feel inspired, welcomed and cared for in the way that I feel. We seek to build an Adas Israel that is a relevant, dynamic center for Jewish living and Jewish learning in a supportive and welcoming community.

Is there anything else you'd like us to know?

While serving as a synagogue executive director was not exactly the career path I had originally envisioned for myself, I've

come to believe that this role isn't so much a job—it is a calling—and it didn't take me too long to hear the voice calling me to this work. I believe in a servant-leader model. Ultimately, if I can be of greater service to my colleagues, to our leadership, and to our members, we as a community can be of greater service to a wider 21st century Judaism. I particularly look forward to working with the Board of Directors and the clergy over the next year or two to articulate a revised strategic plan for this historic organization. Combining my passion for mission-based nonprofit management with the joys of my own personal Jewish journey makes this the perfect place for me. Every day I become more and more inspired and impressed by the level of talent within our clergy and staff, and by the steadfast dedication of our lay leadership. We're ready to roll up our sleeves, get to work with our diverse, robust community, and usher this historic congregation into a renewed age of warmth, welcoming, creativity, and caring

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Give to the Ezra Pantry @ Adas Israel

The Ezra Pantry is located in the coatroom of the Quebec Street Entrance Foyer, next to the Biran Beit Midrash. When you go to the supermarket, be sure to buy extra for those in need!

The Adas Fund: Now is the time to give!



So many congregants have responded to our call to support our incredible congregational community. But we are not there yet! We cannot fulfill our obligations to the students, the elderly, and to every Jewish person who seeks comfort and community within our walls, **if we do not raise the funds necessary to keep our community alive.**

Now is the time to make a donation to the Adas Fund so that we can hire and retain Rabbis and necessary staff, teachers and *b'nai mitzvah* tutors; so we can keep Washington, DC's only *mikvah* running; so we can keep our promise to provide kosher meals to the home-

bound elderly; so we can keep our doors open to members in need; and so we can support the myriad services and religious practices that keep our diverse community strong.

Don't delay. Please add your support to the Adas Fund and to the future of this community, today. Please send your check or pledge card to Adas Israel, or visit www.adasrael.org/the-adas-fund to contribute today!

—Toni & David Bickart ○



Upcoming Chronicle Deadlines—

October: Thursday, August 28; November: Tuesday, September 30